

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN RE: . Case No. 06-30007, 06-30008,
INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATION CO. . 06-30009
LLC, EMERGING COMMUNICATIONS, .
INC. and JEFFREY PROSSER, . USX Tower - 54th Floor
Debtors. . 600 Grant Street
..... . Pittsburgh, PA 15219
..... . January 24, 2007
..... . 11:11 a.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING
BEFORE HONORABLE JUDITH K. FITZGERALD
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE

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1 THE COURT: These are the matters of Emerging
2 Communications, Innovative Communication and Jeffrey Prosser,
3 30006, 30007, 008 and 009 pending in the District of the Virgin
4 Islands. This is the continuation of an evidentiary hearing
5 from last week.

6 The participants I have listed by phone Daryl Dodson,
7 Frank Vaughan, Richard Hunter, John Cornwell, Francis Monaco,
8 Kevin Mangan, William Harrington, Robert Craig, Jeremy
9 Gladstone, Gregg Galardi, Thomas Allingham, Mark
10 Desgrosseilliers, Matthew Ward, Andy Weinfeld, Ann
11 DeFranceschi, Jason Madron and Douglas Bartner, Scott Shelley,
12 Michael Lichtenstein, Joel Holt, Lisa McLaughlin, David Rosner,
13 Jeffrey Gleit, Brian Meyer, Lynette Kelley and Lanny Davis.

14 I'll take entries in the Virgin Islands, please.

15 MS. RICH: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Carol Rich on
16 behalf of the corporate debtors.

17 MR. DODSON: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Daryl Dodson
18 on behalf of the RTFC.

19 MR. MOOREHEAD: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Jeffrey
20 Moorehead on behalf of the PFC appearing by telephone.

21 THE COURT: I'm sorry, sir, there was someone else
22 speaking at the same time. Would you enter your appearance
23 again, please?

24 MR. MOOREHEAD: Judge, Jeffrey Moorehead by telephone
25 on behalf of the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission.

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. MOOREHEAD: I was unable to catch a flight this
3 morning to be in St. Thomas.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Are we not able to connect -- I'm
5 not sure, I'll have to check. Can we not connect two videos?
6 Can we do the video from St. Thomas and St. Croix at the same
7 time? We can.

8 MR. MOOREHEAD: I don't know, Your Honor. I'm in my
9 office.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Moorehead, I think we have the
11 capability of doing video from St. Thomas and St. Croix to
12 here, so if that's something that you want us to look into, I
13 believe we can make that possible.

14 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you. Thank you very much.

15 THE COURT: One second.

16 What I'm being told is that we may have a feed issue
17 because we have to split the band width to the two locations,
18 but, frankly, I don't think that that should be an issue
19 overall.

20 If you want to do it, Mr. Moorehead, the next time we
21 have these from a remote location I'll check, but we can try
22 it.

23 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MR. BARTNER: Good morning, Your Honor, Douglas

1 Bartner from Shearman & Sterling with Lynette Kelley, co-
2 counsel to the corporate debtors.

3 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Good morning, Your Honor, Michael
4 Lichtenstein and Robert Craig for Jeffrey Prosser.

5 MR. GERBER: Good morning, Your Honor. Toby Gerber
6 and William Greendyke of Fulbright and Jaworski for the RTFC
7 along with Kent Bressie of Harris, Wiltshire and Grannis, also
8 on behalf of the RTFC.

9 THE COURT: Is there something we can do about the
10 feedback?

11 Good morning.

12 MR. GALARDI: Good morning, Gregg Galardi on behalf
13 of Greenlight, Your Honor.

14 MR. GEBHARDT: Good morning, Your Honor, Guy
15 Gephardt, Assistant United States Trustee.

16 THE COURT: Okay, where were we? Mr. Bartner?

17 MR. BARTNER: Your Honor, good morning again.

18 Where we were was Mr. Lichtenstein was in the middle
19 of cross examining the expert that Greenlight had, Mr. Jim
20 Carroll.

21 Before we started, perhaps Your Honor had asked us to
22 think about a few things, which we have, and there's one other
23 report where we were on those.

24 The parties have agreed that we would continue
25 subject to Your Honor's desire today with closing arguments.

1 We discussed post trial briefs. I believe RTFC and Greenlight
2 would like to dispense with them. The debtor is fine with
3 that, but if the Court believes it would be helpful in reaching
4 a conclusion to have us do post trial briefs, we're happy to do
5 that as well.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 MR. BARTNER: Okay? So, I don't think I had anything
8 else, Your Honor. Just pick it up with Mr. Lichtenstein?

9 MR. GREENDYKE: Judge, Bill Greendyke on behalf of
10 the RTFC. I think we would prefer, as he said, to argue today
11 and would not, unless the Court orders otherwise, utilize post-
12 hearing briefs in order to argue the case. We think we're
13 going to have enough time today to do everything we need to do.

14 After conversations with Shearman & Sterling, I
15 alluded last time we were here to a Virgin Islands statute and
16 highlighted a couple provisions of the statute. I think
17 there's 20 sections in the statute. I handed the Court a copy
18 of it, which included both a hard-bound book version as well as
19 a copy of a pocket part.

20 One of the last sections of the statute was a section
21 that I did not argue to you, because it honestly doesn't
22 support my case and I didn't recall that it existed. But as
23 indicated by the debtor, it does exist, and the Court needs to
24 be aware of it in terms of thoroughness and completeness.

25 Section 20 of the statute, and I'm referring to three

1 V-I-C, Section 717 which deals with the retirement personnel
2 and basically statutory guidelines for how the GERS does its
3 business. Provides that the board of trustees -- and I'm
4 quoting, reading from the statute, Section 20. "The board of
5 trustees may administer the investment portfolio programs of
6 the system, including the alternative investment programs," and
7 it's later defined by the statute. "The maximum amount which
8 may be invested in the alternative investment program is no
9 more than five percent of the total amount of the available
10 investment portfolio."

11 And then it defines alternative investments to be,
12 for lack of a better term, just about everything under the sun,
13 whether it's hedge funds or private equity, special situations,
14 oil and gas, agriculture, real estate. I mean, all kinds of
15 stuff.

16 The sections that I alluded to earlier in my argument
17 were maybe like two and three or three and four of the statute
18 that talks about what they principally can invest in, and it is
19 as I said. They can invest -- other than through this
20 alternative investment program, in stocks that are not listed
21 on the nationally recognized exchange. They have limitations
22 on the amount of stock that can be invested or amount of GERS
23 portfolio that can be invested in any particular company, which
24 I think is one percent.

25 After looking over the statute again, and I think I

1 qualified my comments last Friday, I'm not a VI lawyer. I've
2 not researched this extensively. I think the GERS board has
3 the discretion to vote, to alter any of these guidelines by as
4 much as 25 percent, but we're still dealing with one percent,
5 two percent and five percent, as in the case of this
6 alternative investment program.

7 We wanted the Court to be aware of that. I failed to
8 disclose that -- failed to mention it to the Court. I frankly
9 didn't recall it and wanted you to know that there -- it's a
10 very broad statute, and there's lots of opportunity. We will
11 believe that it does not enable the GERS to do what the debtor
12 thinks the GERS can do because of the cap, the five percent
13 cap.

14 My understanding, and I don't know -- my impression
15 on information and belief is that the total portfolio or size,
16 if you will, capitalization of the GERS is in the 1.3 billion.
17 Five percent of that is going to be in the \$65 million range.
18 That's nowhere near -- that's one-tenth of the money we're
19 talking about in terms of the debtors and the letters that have
20 been presented or argued to the Court.

21 So, with that, thank you.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 Any other preliminary matters before we recall Mr.
24 Carroll?

25 Okay, Mr. Carroll.

Carroll - Cross/Lichtenstein

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1 COURT CLERK: Would you like the witness sworn?

2 THE COURT: Yes, please.

3 JAMES CARROLL, WITNESS, SWORN

4 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Good morning, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Good morning.

6 CROSS EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. LICHTENSTEIN:

8 Q Mr. Carroll, good morning. Michael Lichtenstein for the
9 debtors.

10 Mr. Carroll, I take it you haven't discussed your
11 testimony with anybody since you left the stand last week; is
12 that correct?

13 A I have not.

14 Q Mr. Carroll, I'd like to talk today a little bit about the
15 report that you filed. It was the three-page -- three or four-
16 page report. Do you happen to have a copy of the exhibits with
17 you?

18 A I don't have anything in front of me, no.

19 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, I'm not --

20 THE COURT: I think you all left -- counsel left
21 boxes of exhibits and --

22 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I think they may be in the
23 cabinet, Your Honor.

24 I think I only see the debtor's exhibits, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: I can make a copy of the one that was

Carroll - Cross/Lichtenstein

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1 filed if that would be of assistance.

2 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, we did leave the binders
3 here with all of the Greenlight exhibits, so they should have
4 been someplace. I might --

5 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Are your boxes missing?

7 MR. GALARDI: No, I have my boxes, but the exhibits
8 were kept separately, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Oh.

10 MR. GALARDI: And they were all over there when we
11 left the court, the binders.

12 THE COURT: Did you get your exhibits?

13 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: These are the ones, yes.

14 THE COURT: I'm having a copy made of the one that
15 was handed up to the court

16 MR. GALARDI: I think Mr. Lichtenstein is going to be
17 asking more about the thicker exhibits, if I'm not mistaken,
18 the Consolidated reports or just his resume?

19 Oh, just his report? I thought you asked about the
20 exhibits.

21 MR. BARTNER: Your Honor, I should have started by
22 apologizing for being a few minutes late. We flew in this
23 morning. There was some weather and traffic control issues, so
24 apologies.

25 THE COURT: It's no problem. I understood that there

Carroll - Cross/Lichtenstein

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1 might be some difficulty this morning, and I guess there was a
2 lineup getting into the building as well through security this
3 morning.

4 Fire drills on one end, problems getting in on the
5 other.

6 (Off the record discussion among court personnel)

7 THE COURT: Mr. Lichtenstein, I've made a copy of the
8 curriculum vitae and the exhibit that is the three-page report.
9 I don't suppose you want the electronic filing notice with it.
10 Okay.

11 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 BY MR. LICHTENSTEIN:

13 Q You have the report in front of you, Mr. Carroll?

14 A Yes, I do.

15 Q Do you mind looking at the third page of the report, and
16 there's a title there that says, "Adequacy and Accuracy of
17 Financials". Do you see that?

18 A Yes, I do.

19 Q Now, that is a misnomer, is it not? That title?

20 A I'm not sure of the question.

21 Q Well, in actual fact, isn't it true that with respect to
22 the audited financial statements the only concern you have is
23 with the adequacy of the disclosure?

24 A No, that's not true. The --

25 Q That's not true that the only concern you have is with the

Carroll - Cross/Lichtenstein

15

1 adequacy of the disclosure?

2 A No, I'm concerned with the accuracy of the disclosure as
3 well.

4 Q Do you remember that you were deposed last week?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And you answered questions under oath at that deposition,
7 right?

8 A Yes, I did.

9 Q And I assume you told the truth when you were testifying
10 under oath; is that correct?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q Now, do you recall that you were asked a question, and I'm
13 looking at Page 91 of your deposition, "What other concerns do
14 you have, other than the adequacy of disclosure"?

15 Answer, "In the statements."

16 Mr. Galardi, "Objection."

17 Question, "Correct."

18 Answer, "Nothing."

19 Do you recall that last week you said that the only
20 concern you had was the adequacy of the financial statements?

21 A I stand by my report, so if I misunderstood you to say
22 that -- I don't take back what I wrote in this report. If I
23 took what you were saying, do I have anything other than the
24 adequacy, I -- the only thing I can assume is that I must have
25 assumed you were talking about the way my report was captioned.

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1 Q Now, you're not suggesting in your report that the
2 financial statements are mis-stated; isn't that correct?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And you're not suggesting that the financial statements
5 are improperly stated in any way; isn't that correct?

6 A Except for what I talked about with the adequacy and the
7 accuracy of them with the related disclosures.

8 Q And with respect to related party transactions, you don't
9 believe that the financial disclosures are materially mis-
10 stated in their conclusions either, do you?

11 A What I said was the related party descriptions and the
12 disclosure were inadequate. I don't believe the end result for
13 the balance sheet is materially mis-stated I believe is what
14 I've said.

15 Q Let me recall for you your testimony at the deposition and
16 tell me if you stand by that testimony.

17 "The financial statements, as I pointed out before, I
18 don't believe are materially mis-stated in their conclusions as
19 it relates to the related party transactions."

20 Do you recall making that testimony?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And was that accurate when you made that testimony?

23 A And I believe that's what I've just tried to testify to.

24 Q Mr. Carroll, I'm just asking you if it was accurate when
25 you made that testimony.

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1 THE COURT: Don't argue with the witness, please. He
2 has not made an inconsistent statement. He just said it's
3 accurate now, and that's just what he's testified to.

4 BY MR. LICHTENSTEIN:

5 Q I'm sorry, so you said it was accurate?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Now, it's true, is it not, that you think that the
8 footnote disclosure is inadequate because it doesn't state that
9 the notes receivable from shareholder will not be repaid,
10 right?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q And you concede, however, that the fact that the financial
13 statements did not show the related party transactions accruing
14 interest would lead one to believe -- wonder whether or not
15 they are collectable; isn't that right?

16 THE COURT: Wait, I'm sorry. That went too fast for
17 me.

18 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Let me repeat the question.

19 BY MR. LICHTENSTEIN:

20 Q You believe that the fact that the financial statements
21 did not show that the related party transactions are accruing
22 interest would lead a believe -- would lead a reader to believe
23 -- wonder whether or not they are collectable.

24 A It's an inconsistency. It would create that doubt in
25 one's mind, yes.

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18

1 Q Now, you've heard the testimony of Mr. Prosser and Mr.
2 Lubana, and you know that they've characterized these as
3 advances; isn't that correct?

4 A That's true.

5 Q And you believe that these should be distributions; is
6 that correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q It's true, is it not, that there's no particular rule you
9 can cite to that would require these to be defined as
10 distributions rather than advances. Isn't that correct?

11 A That's true.

12 Q And there's no particular GAP requirement or definition
13 that you're aware of or could point to that would require these
14 be defined as distributions; is that correct?

15 A The GAP rules are for the underlying transaction and not
16 just the words alone, so it would have to go to the underlying
17 transaction and the treatment of the transaction.

18 Q And so with respect to whether it's called an advance or
19 distribution there is no GAP rule that you could point to; is
20 that correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And so the characterization as a distribution rather than
23 an advance is your subjective view; isn't that correct?

24 A It's my review of the transaction.

25 Q And it's your subjective view; isn't that correct?

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19

1 A It is my opinion, yes.

2 Q Now, is it correct that the balance sheet will state the
3 same net equity position whether or not you call these related
4 transactions advances or distributions?

5 A I believe that's true.

6 Q And it's true, is it not, that there'd be no net effect on
7 the balance sheet whether you call these transactions, advances
8 or distributions? Isn't that correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And you agree, do you not, that these related party
11 transactions should not be reflected as an asset on the balance
12 sheet?

13 A They should not be reflected as an asset on the balance
14 sheet given the fact that they're not to be repaid, yes.

15 Q Mr. Carroll, do you know what an unqualified opinion is
16 when issued by a public accounting firm?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q And am I correct that an unqualified opinion means that
19 the financial statements comply with GAP?

20 A And are fairly presented, yes.

21 Q And it's true, is it not, that an auditor could not give
22 an unqualified opinion if the financial statements did not
23 comply with GAP?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And in this instance the financial statements you reviewed

Carroll - Redirect/Galardi

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1 prepared by BDO Seidman, they issued an unqualified opinion of
2 the ICC financial statements; isn't that correct?

3 A Yes, they did.

4 Q And you're not expressing an opinion here today that BDO
5 Seidman did anything wrong, are you?

6 A No, I'm not.

7 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Nothing further, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Redirect?

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. GALARDI:

11 Q Mr. Carroll, you've heard testimony from Mr. Prosser while
12 you were here at the last hearing that these were not to be
13 repaid because of a future merger transaction; is that correct?

14 A That's true.

15 Q Now, if that merger transaction were not to ever occur,
16 how would you have reflected that in the financial statements?
17 What change would that have on your view?

18 A At the time they reported his assets, because of
19 supposedly this future merger transaction, I would have
20 recorded it as a distribution to the shareholders.

21 Q Okay, and when Mr. Lichtenstein asked you about whether
22 you would get an unqualified opinion, are you familiar with
23 what information was actually given to BDO Seidman at the time
24 that it gave that unqualified opinion?

25 A No, I'm not. I don't know what the relationship between

Carroll - Redirect/Galardi

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1 Seidman and the company was at that time.

2 Q And I believe your testimony is that the financials do not
3 fairly represent the underlying transaction; isn't that
4 correct?

5 A That's true.

6 Q Okay, and that's based on what, exactly?

7 A The transaction itself is mis -- I don't think it's
8 disclosed properly, but that transaction should have disclosed
9 the collectability of the issue, should have disclosed more
10 specifics on where the advances were going, what other items
11 and ultimately should have stated the stockholders' equity
12 differently than it was presented.

13 Q And as you sit here today, had that information been given
14 to BDO Seidman, do you have an opinion of whether it would have
15 given a qualified or an unqualified opinion?

16 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, I object to that
17 question, since there's no evidence as to -- he just testified
18 he doesn't know what BDO Seidman had, so I'm not sure how he
19 can respond to that question.

20 THE COURT: Sustained.

21 MR. GALARDI: Okay. No further questions, Your
22 Honor.

23 MR. GREENDYKE: We have no questions, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Recross?

25 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: No, Your Honor; although, I would

1 at this time renew my request that this Court not qualify Mr.
2 Carroll as an expert and move to strike his testimony as an
3 expert.

4 THE COURT: On the grounds?

5 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, on the grounds -- I
6 think several grounds. Number one, I think that -- as I stated
7 before and went through the voir dire, I don't think that he's
8 qualified. He has never signed off on an audited financial
9 statement. He hasn't been a CPA for 15 years, he hasn't worked
10 for 20 years.

11 Number two, Your Honor, I believe that there's an
12 issue here with respect to his credibility, given that he's
13 Skadden Arps witness. He testified that I think five out of
14 the six current assignments he has, either he's hiring Mr.
15 Galardi's firm or Mr. Galardi has hired his firm. I think that
16 impacts on his credibility.

17 Number three, Your Honor, I don't think that his
18 opinions assist this Court in any way in terms of being an
19 expert. He has two opinions, one of the opinions is how the
20 shareholders should have treated this transaction, and he
21 testified based on Mr. Prosser's testimony that he agrees with
22 the way that Mr. Prosser treated these transactions.

23 And number two, with respect to the adequacy of the
24 financial statement his testimony is that an unqualified
25 opinion was issued, and Your Honor, I don't think -- and BDO --

1 and that that means that it complies with GAP.

2 And so when you take all that into account, Your
3 Honor, I don't believe that under Rule 702 he should either be
4 qualified and -- under Daubert or in any way assists this Court
5 in determining anything with respect to these hearings.

6 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, just briefly. Let's start
7 with the qualified.

8 First of all, the uncontested testimony is Mr.
9 Carroll is a CPA. There's an educational specialization. And
10 he has performed audits.

11 The second is his experience goes to show that he has
12 reviewed financial statements, is a more than average reader of
13 financial statements, has done tax reports, and he's given two
14 opinion, one is from the reader of a financial statement, what
15 his view is of fairly presentation, and two, with respect to
16 the transaction whether or not the debtor should have declared
17 income.

18 I disagree with Mr. Lichtenstein's characterization
19 of the testimony being that Mr. Prosser, in fact, is
20 consistent, but I will leave that to certain other exhibits,
21 and we will finish that.

22 But I think that first of all, as to the
23 qualifications, his familiarity with financial statements, his
24 familiarity with doing tax transactions, that's been
25 established. It may go to the weight that Your Honor gives it.

1 This is not a jury trial. Your Honor can give it what weight.

2 As to the relevance of the testimony I think that the
3 only challenge that has been really made is not to the
4 testimony with respect to the tax reports, which we can differ
5 on what that testimony was, and Your Honor will review the
6 record, but it clearly goes to the veracity and the debtor's
7 ability to file and to take these transactions properly
8 accounted.

9 With respect to the BDO Seidman and the report, Your
10 Honor, I think the testimony is, again, relevant and pertinent
11 because of the fact that, one, BDO did not show -- and I will
12 have a Supreme Court case for Your Honor to show that that is,
13 in fact, the best evidence against BDO and the debtors.

14 THE COURT: I'm sorry, that BDO didn't -- I didn't
15 hear you.

16 MR. GALARDI: Did not show --

17 THE COURT: Oh, isn't here.

18 MR. GALARDI: -- and give a report to come in -- to
19 do it, and there's a Supreme Court case on point about the
20 silence being the most convincing character. Mr. Carroll has
21 been -- dealt with the information.

22 With respect to the other evidence on the income tax
23 returns, again, Mr. Carroll has offered an opinion as to what
24 should have been declared. There is an inconsistency with
25 whether it's 2 or 14 million dollars. So, there is a relevance

1 to that. It is pertinent to the fact, and it does raise an
2 issue, again, as to the veracity.

3 So, we would say, one, Mr. Carroll is qualified, that
4 Your Honor consider the evidence, Your Honor is the trier of
5 fact here, so you can determine yourself whether it's useful or
6 not, and to the extent it is useful, you can give it whatever
7 weight.

8 So, Your Honor, we would move for, again, your
9 consideration of that evidence.

10 THE COURT: Yes, I think the testimony indicates that
11 the witness is qualified to offer the opinions that he has
12 expressed. And I agree that it is a matter of weight to be
13 afforded to testimony and not a matter of qualifications.

14 So, I am not going to strike the testimony on that
15 basis, and I indicated that I would carefully consider the
16 witness's opinions in light of the qualifications as they have
17 been put on the record, and I will do that.

18 So, I will not strike the testimony.

19 Did you indicate, Mr. Lichtenstein, that you have no
20 further questions for the witness?

21 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: I'm sorry -- I can't recall which of you
23 examined this witness, I'm sorry?

24 Ms. Kelley, Mr. Gebhardt, do you have any questions
25 for the witness?

1 MS. KELLEY: No, we don't, Your Honor, thank you.

2 THE COURT: All right, you're excused, sir. Thank
3 you.

4 May he return to Massachusetts and go home? Do you
5 need him?

6 MR. GALARDI: Wherever he's going, Your Honor, I
7 don't think it might be Massachusetts.

8 THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry. Not Massachusetts?
9 Wherever you'd like to go, if you can get out ahead of the
10 storm, you may want to do it. I understand we're headed for
11 three inches of snow or something, so if you'd like to leave,
12 you're free to do so.

13 All right, Mr. Galardi, any other witnesses?

14 MR. GALARDI: No other witnesses, Your Honor. I
15 would just like to complete the introduction of the evidence
16 that I had. I missed three numbers --

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 MR. GALARDI: -- and then I wanted to do --

19 Your Honor, with respect to the evidence and the
20 exhibits that we have submitted to Your Honor I had forgotten
21 that there was one further supplement.

22 There's a G-83, G-84 and G-85. Those are
23 respectively ICC's/LLC's answers to interrogatories, 84 is Mr.
24 Prosser's first answer to interrogatory, and 85 is Mr.
25 Prosser's supplement to that interrogatory. I would move that

1 into evidence. I just left that off my list of documents.

2 THE COURT: Any objections?

3 MS. KELLEY: No objections, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right, 83, 84 and 85 are admitted.

5 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, with respect to what I
6 alluded to, I would also like to move into admission -- into
7 evidence, sorry, G-68, 69 through 75, but Your Honor, with
8 respect to those no exhibits were included. I have the
9 redacted versions here. They are Mr. Prosser's tax forms.

10 Since I do not have the unredacted forms, I would
11 move into admission the redacted tax forms.

12 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, we object to that.
13 That's an incomplete exhibit. I don't know that it is what it
14 professes to be. Mr. Prosser was on the stand. I don't
15 believe he showed them to him. I don't even know what it is.
16 I don't have them.

17 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, they were actually provided
18 by Mr. Craig in the time of his deposition. They are the '98
19 through 2004 federal income tax forms. They are the forms that
20 I requested the unredacted versions for, and I will be
21 following up on the Supreme Court case that says when you've
22 given notice of this and the best evidence to refute my
23 evidence and the inference from Mr. Carroll is in their control
24 and they don't do it, you draw the inference against them.

25 So, I think I am entitled to admit the unredacted

1 forms. The redacted forms that were given to me by Mr. Carroll
2 -- I mean, by Mr. Craig under oath and sworn to in the
3 interrogatories by Mr. Prosser.

4 THE COURT: All right, so these are documents that
5 were sworn to by Mr. Prosser as his redacted versions of his
6 tax returns for what period of time?

7 MR. GALARDI: It is 1999, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002,
8 2003. And the only thing I have for 2004 is the itemized
9 deductions, but I would put that in as an incomplete 2004. If
10 I had -- and, again, I understand Mr. Lichtenstein has said I
11 didn't comply, but I think that we have a basis to put in the
12 redacted forms.

13 MR. CRAIG: Your Honor, a couple of comments. First
14 of all, Mr. Prosser -- the case against Mr. Prosser for
15 conversation was closed two weeks ago. That's one point.

16 The second point is that these redacted tax returns
17 were provided during expedited discovery that dealt with the
18 single issue of venue. And because of that the issues that
19 were addressed in those tax returns, the data that had to do
20 with venue were provided to Greenlight. But issues concerning
21 personal income and tax treatment, etcetera, were not at all
22 relevant to the very limited scope of discovery, and that's why
23 they have these redacted tax returns.

24 And there's been no request, formal request, for
25 anything more since that time. And so I just wanted you to

1 have a context, Your Honor, of why they have these.

2 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, I do not disagree that they
3 were provided in another context. They are tax forms that have
4 his signature. They were verified in discovery. They are --
5 and we're not opening the conversion case. Your Honor said it
6 wasn't going to open. But Mr. Carroll did testify that he
7 would have assumed that we would have found income on the ECOM
8 report which we put in 2004, and there was no income.

9 He said that he would expect to have found income
10 with respect to the years that Mr. Prosser received advances,
11 again, in the context of the trustee motion and his opinion.
12 And he said on the witness stand that he would have expected it
13 to be X dollars. And based on his review of Mr. Prosser's
14 deposition, which I'd ask him what the redacted numbers were
15 for a certain of these years, Mr. Prosser said they were one to
16 two million dollars.

17 So, that's an inconsistency, and Mr. Carroll's
18 testimony is that it should have been a larger number based on
19 the advances. I think it's relevant to the trustee motion, and
20 I would move its admission.

21 THE COURT: Okay, you've lost me, because I haven't
22 seen any of these documents. So, I don't have a clue how they
23 relate.

24 Are you telling me that in the redacted 2004 tax
25 return of Mr. Prosser that there is a number shown for what

1 he's reporting his income, and that that number is inconsistent
2 with his testimony? And you want the 2004 return introduced
3 because it is an inconsistent statement of a party in the case.

4 MR. GALARDI: Yes, Your Honor. With respect to 2000
5 -- let me give -- the deposition I asked Mr. Prosser about his
6 income for 2004, 2003. He could recollect that the number --
7 this form has a blank in it.

8 I asked him what's the size of that number in round
9 numbers. He gave me a number. It was one to two million
10 dollars for those two years.

11 That's the statement that he said on the stand.

12 THE COURT: In income.

13 MR. GALARDI: In income. What Mr. Carroll has said
14 in the opinion is that that number should have been larger
15 based on the advances. It's not an inconsistent statement with
16 respect to Mr. Prosser. Mr. Prosser has maintained that the
17 one to two is proper.

18 What Mr. Carroll has said is it wouldn't be a proper
19 number. That's -- and we can't find out the answer because Mr.
20 Prosser has not produced an unredacted form in response to Mr.
21 Carroll's report.

22 THE COURT: Okay, so you're suggesting that the
23 problem is that for purposes of whether or not Mr. Prosser is
24 carrying out his fiduciary duty to this estate in looking at
25 the trustee motion, that as a controlling officer, director of

1 the debtor's estates, he is not reporting income either on the
2 corporate returns where the corporation is supposed to report
3 the income, or on the check-the-box corporation on his own
4 return, because there is no information on the returns that
5 have been provided to indicate that that income has been
6 reported.

7 Mr. Carroll suggests that it should be reported, and
8 you don't have any evidence that it has been reported, despite
9 Mr. Prosser's testimony.

10 MR. GALARDI: Correct, Your Honor, and in --

11 THE COURT: And the tax returns show a blank space.

12 MR. GALARDI: Shows a redacted space that was asked
13 about in a deposition, but the number is inconsistent with Mr.
14 Carroll's report of what should have been included somewhere in
15 the debtor's tax returns.

16 THE COURT: Well, how can it be inconsistent if it's
17 redacted?

18 MR. GALARDI: Because Mr. Prosser gave a number, even
19 though redacted. He wouldn't exactly it was X. But he gave a
20 range.

21 THE COURT: He said it was one to two million.

22 MR. GALARDI: Exactly. And that number is
23 inconsistent with what Mr. Carroll testified based on the
24 audited financials of 14 minus 2 should have been 12 or 11.
25 That's nowhere to be found. So, it goes to the trustee motion

1 in the irregular reporting of financials.

2 THE COURT: Okay, well, it does for the period of
3 time that Mr. Carroll had the information with respect to
4 EMCOM, but that, as I understood it, was only one tax year.

5 MR. GALARDI: EMCOM was 2004. That's already been
6 admitted. They did not object to that, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Right, but that's the only -- as I -- if
8 I recall Mr. Carroll's testimony correctly, that was the only
9 tax report that he actually saw.

10 MR. GALARDI: Well, he actually saw all of the
11 redacted forms, as he testified to, and then when I --

12 THE COURT: Of Mr. Prosser.

13 MR. GALARDI: Of Mr. Prosser's redacted form.

14 THE COURT: Yes, the corporation.

15 MR. GALARDI: For the corp -- for EMCOM, yes. Mr.
16 Prosser checked the box, '98 through 2000 are for Mr. Prosser
17 personally and for ICC/LLC. Mr. Prosser's testimony in his
18 deposition is that he could recall 2004 and he could recall
19 2003. 2004 he could estimate what 2005 was going to be, and
20 with respect to 2004, the number that he gave, especially when
21 you look in light of he EMCOM, is a number far smaller than
22 what's in the financials and what Mr. Carroll would testify.

23 To make it simpler, Your Honor, I think what we can
24 simply do is seek to move -- to admit the 2003 and 2004
25 redacted versions for the purposes of Mr. Carroll's testimony

1 with respect to those years and leave it at that. I don't need
2 to go back to the other ones if that makes it simpler.

3 THE COURT: What exhibits are those?

4 MR. GALARDI: Those would be Exhibit G-73 and G-74.

5 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, may I address the
6 Court?

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, I think Mr. Galardi --
9 and I'm sure this is unintentional -- is misleading the Court
10 in what's going on here.

11 Mr. Prosser was deposed. He testified that his net
12 income was one or two million dollars. He's testified several
13 times that his net income was not \$13 million, that the
14 expenses and his income that he takes together is 13 or 14
15 million dollars.

16 Mr. Galardi cross examined him about that several
17 times in court, and his testimony was consistent, and he
18 explained to the Court -- in fact, I went through it with Mr.
19 Carroll, that the \$14 million consisted of expenses for Belize
20 Telecom, for legal fees, etcetera, and that his income, net
21 income, that his -- like his salary was \$2 million.

22 What Mr. Galardi -- and Mr. Galardi has moved that
23 deposition into testimony. What Mr. Galardi's now trying to
24 do, Your Honor, is take redacted tax returns that don't show
25 any information and tell Your Honor that Your Honor can infer

1 from those tax returns the fact that they're redacted, that
2 somehow they're inconsistent with his testimony.

3 Well, first of all, Your Honor, that's not true,
4 because Mr. Prosser testified that that's not the way they were
5 reported.

6 Second of all, Your Honor, Mr. Galardi did not make
7 any document request. What he did is, a couple of days before
8 the hearing sent an email saying he'd like the tax returns. He
9 did not comply with the rules. And as I told Your Honor last
10 time, he's not even entitled to those tax returns. He's only
11 entitled, if he follows the rule, to last year's tax return,
12 and he's now somehow trying to say that that's evidence that
13 his expert was prejudiced 'cause he couldn't look at the tax
14 returns and wants Your Honor to admit redacted tax returns and
15 allow him to argue that those are inconsistent somehow with Mr.
16 Prosser's testimony.

17 Number one, it would be highly prejudicial. Number
18 two, there's no actual basis for it. If he wants to argue
19 about what Mr. Prosser testified in his deposition, he's
20 welcome to do that, because he's admitted that as an exhibit.

21 Your Honor, there's no basis for admitting these
22 redacted tax returns.

23 THE COURT: I'm afraid I'm not seeing the basis for
24 the redacted tax returns for this reason. Number one, I think
25 that the purpose for which they were provided, i.e., for the

1 venue issue, with the numbers taken out, the reason the numbers
2 were taken out at that time was because they were not material
3 for the purpose for which they were provided.

4 To the extent that Mr. Prosser's testimony is viewed
5 as somehow inconsistent with what Mr. Carroll envisioned should
6 be the reporting requirements for the tax information, I'm not
7 sure that the redacted returns are in fact inconsistent,
8 because I don't know what the redaction is. And so, I don't
9 know how you can make an inference that when a number is
10 crossed off and you can't see the number, that it's
11 inconsistent with the witness's testimony. The witness did say
12 that it reports the information on his tax return. He was very
13 clear about that. The numbers are not clear, but he was clear
14 that he reports it.

15 The problem is we don't know whether he reports it as
16 a matter of fact on the return itself, 'cause we don't have the
17 numbers that show up on the return. I don't think the returns
18 are helpful in that respect.

19 Okay, so G --

20 MR. GALARDI: Suggest G-82, 3 and 4, which I think
21 there are no objections to the interrogatories.

22 THE COURT: They were admitted, but 73 and 74 will
23 not be.

24 MR. GALARDI: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Is that all your exhibits then?

1 MR. GALARDI: That is all my exhibits, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay, Mr. Greendyke, any further
3 witnesses from the RTFC?

4 MR. GREENDYKE: No, Judge. No further evidence.

5 THE COURT: Any further exhibits?

6 MR. GREENDYKE: No, Judge. We discussed those last
7 year.

8 THE COURT: Does the U.S. Trustee have any witnesses
9 or any further exhibits?

10 MR. GEBHARDT: May it please the court, Guy Gephardt,
11 Assistant United States Trustee. Your Honor, when we made our
12 opening statement last Friday we said that when we presented
13 our case we would ask the Court to take judicial notice of
14 certain items in the record, and I'm prepared to do that now.

15 Our case is the debtors have made virtually no
16 progress since the involuntary cases were filed almost a year
17 ago and have failed to meet time tables and deadlines.

18 The U.S. Trustee respectfully asks the Court to take
19 judicial notice of the following pleadings, orders and
20 transcripts in these cases. The debtor's motion to dismiss the
21 involuntary petition. That would be Delaware Emerging Docket
22 number 40 and Innovative Docket number 41, contain a
23 description of the relationships between and among their
24 creditors which, with respect to the RTFC, began in 1987.

25 The litigation which has ensued in the Delaware

1 Chancery Court began a number of years ago and is described in
2 the debtor's statement of financial affairs, Page 4. That's VI
3 Emerging Docket number 36, and Innovative Docket number 37.
4 The disputes pending before this Court are not recent ones.

5 During April 2006 the debtors, Greenlight and RTFC,
6 entered into a settlement agreement, and the settlement
7 agreement is under seal. I would ask the Court to take
8 judicial notice of that.

9 On July 19, 2006 the debtors filed status reports,
10 Delaware Emerging Docket number 130, and Innovative Docket
11 number 132 with supplements, Docket numbers 134 and 136,
12 respectively, indicating they were on the verge of entering
13 into a definitive commitment with one or more financial
14 institutions in the next few days and indicating their intent
15 to go forward with the hearing set for July 26, 2006.

16 On July 31, 2006 the debtors filed their voluntary
17 cases in the United States Virgin Islands and on September 25,
18 2006 filed joint motions to assume the settlement agreement.
19 That's VI Emerging Docket number 23, amended at 82, and
20 Innovative Docket number 24, amended at 81.

21 On September 29, 2006 the Court entered an order
22 scheduling the debtors' motions and further ordered that on or
23 before November 3, 2006 the debtors were to file and serve an
24 amended motion with exhibits that would establish that the
25 debtors had a transaction in place, including binding

1 commitments and other items. That's VI Emerging Docket number
2 29 and Innovative number 30.

3 On November 7, 2006 the Court denied the debtors'
4 request to assume the settlement agreement due to the
5 impossibility of performance. That's VI Emerging Docket number
6 99 and Innovative Docket number 96. At a hearing held on
7 December 4, 2006 the Court suggested the appointment of a
8 Chapter 11 trustee might be appropriate in these cases. That's
9 Virgin Islands Emerging Docket number 198 and Innovative Docket
10 number 188, and the transcript Pages 81, 82.

11 On December 22, 2006 the debtors filed emergency
12 motions for the withdrawal of the reference. That's VI
13 Emerging Docket number 231 and Innovative Docket number 221
14 which the District Court denied.

15 Upon information and belief the debtors have yet to
16 obtain a binding commitment letter from a prospective lender or
17 purchaser.

18 Your Honor with respect to our case regarding impasse
19 and delay, we would ask the case be -- the Court to take
20 judicial notice of the following documents in the record. Also
21 these exhibits and docket numbers support United States
22 Trustee's argument regarding the level of acrimony between and
23 among the parties in this case, as well as the creditors' lack
24 in faith in debtors' management.

25 These items are as follows: the motion to dismiss the

1 involuntary petition -- and these are Delaware dockets -- this
2 is the Delaware docket, Your Honor. The motion to dismiss
3 involuntary petition, Emerging Docket number 40, Innovative
4 Docket 41. The response to debtors' motion to dismiss the
5 involuntary petitions which the Rural Telephone Finance
6 Cooperative filed, Emerging 108, Innovative 110, the brief in
7 opposition to the motions to dismiss the involuntary petitions,
8 Delaware Emerging Docket 109, Innovative 111, the objection and
9 reservation of rights with respect to the motion of Innovative
10 Communications Company, et al., Delaware Emerging Docket number
11 142, Emerging 144, the supplemental objection to the motion of
12 Innovative Communications for entry of an order approving the
13 terms and conditions of the settlement of claims. That is
14 Emerging Docket number 151, Innovative Docket number 153.

15 Your Honor, the following docket entries are in the
16 Virgin Islands cases: the preliminary objection to the joint
17 motion of the debtors for determination that exclusive periods
18 have tolled, or in the alternative to extend the exclusive
19 periods, Emerging number 136, Innovative 133; the amended
20 objection to the joint motion of the debtors for a
21 determination that the exclusive periods have been tolled, or
22 in the alternative to extend the exclusive periods, Emerging
23 155, Innovative 152; motion for relief from stay under Section
24 362, Emerging number 163, Innovative 158; joint motion for
25 sanctions for violation of the automatic stay or the show

1 cause, Emerging 165, Innovative 160; the transcript of December
2 4, 2006 hearing before this court, Emerging 198, Innovative
3 188; the emergency motion for withdrawal of the reference,
4 Emerging 231, Innovative 221; the preliminary objection to the
5 debtors' joint motion to withdraw the Chapter 11 cases to the
6 District Court, Emerging 236, Innovative 227; the RTFC
7 preliminary response to the joint motion to show cause,
8 Emerging 242, Innovative 232; the joinder in support of the
9 motion of the United States Trustee for entry of an order
10 appointing a Chapter 11 trustee, Emerging 256, Innovative 246;
11 the objection to debtors' joint motion for entry of an order
12 appointing a responsible officer, Emerging 258, Innovative 248;
13 the brief of the RTFC in support of its motion for relief from
14 stay under Section 362, Emerging 262; the amended notice of
15 debtors' witness and exhibit list for hearing on the RTFC's
16 motion for relief from stay under Section 362 and Debtors'
17 Exhibit D-6, Emerging number 280 and 281.

18 Those are the items we would ask the Court to take
19 judicial notice of, Your Honor, and we would reserve our other
20 comments for our argument.

21 THE COURT: All right, they all appear to be
22 documents that have been filed of record in these bankruptcy
23 cases. Is there any objection to my taking judicial notice of
24 the filing of these documents?

25 MR. BARTNER: No objection, Your Honor.

1 MR. GALARDI: No objection, Judge.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No objection.

3 THE COURT: They are all -- I take judicial notice of
4 the filing of all the recited documents.

5 MR. GEBHARDT: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: These are the same exhibits that you've
7 listed in your pre-trial submission, correct?

8 MR. GEBHARDT: That's correct, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right, 'cause I don't think I got all
10 the -- I don't type numbers very well, and I'm not sure that I
11 got all the exhibit numbers typed correctly, so I just want to
12 make sure that I have the reference to them. Thank you.

13 All right. Anything further by way of evidence?

14 MR. GEBHARDT: Nothing by way of evidence, Your
15 Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 MR. GEBHARDT: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Anything further from the corporate
19 debtors?

20 MR. BARTNER: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: From Mr. Prosser.

22 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: No, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right, why don't we start then with
24 the debtors' arguments on the responsible officer motion, or do
25 you want the --

1 MR. BARTNER: Your Honor, maybe -- they're sort of
2 bound up in a way --

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 MR. BARTNER: -- and we've prepared our closing
5 arguments as such. It would seem to make sense to me, given
6 that it is the U.S. Trustee's motion on the appointment of the
7 trustee joined in by RTFC and Greenlight, that perhaps the U.S.
8 Trustee ought to begin.

9 THE COURT: That's fine.

10 Mr. Gephardt?

11 MR. GEBHARDT: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Would you folks like a brief recess
13 before you start? Are you in need of a small bathroom break?
14 Yes? Take a five-minute recess?

15 All right, we'll take a five-minute recess and then
16 start. Okay.

17 || (Recess)

18 THE COURT: Mr. Gephhardt.

19 MR. GEBHARDT: May it please the Court, Guy Gephhardt,
20 Assistant United States Trustee. Your Honor, the United States
21 Trustee submits that cause exists in these corporate cases that
22 compel the Court to order the appointment of a Chapter 11
23 trustee.

24 The record shows that the cases have suffered from
25 delay and have reached an impasse. The delay and impasse, we

1 submit, is cause for the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee
2 under Section 1104A1. The appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee
3 will end the delays and break the gridlock, therefore, being in
4 the best interest of creditors, equity security holders and
5 other interests of the estate, a ground for the appointment
6 under Section 1104A2.

7 Your Honor, the parties have made virtually no
8 progress in these cases since the involuntary cases were filed
9 almost a year ago. The record shows that the debtors have
10 failed to meet time tables and deadlines. The U.S. Trustee had
11 asked the Court to take judicial notice of those pleadings
12 which indicated the delay and gridlock, and we had -- we have
13 done that earlier.

14 Upon information and belief the debtors have yet to
15 obtain a binding commitment letter from a prospective lender or
16 purchaser.

17 Further, Your Honor, the review of the record in
18 these cases shows delay. The parties have filed well over 400
19 motions, objections and other pleadings in these cases to date,
20 in both the involuntary and voluntary cases, yet there's been
21 no movement. The ball has not been advanced.

22 The record in these cases shows that the corporate
23 debtors' management has lost the trust completely of its major
24 creditors. The cases have reached an impasse, and they require
25 the appointment of an independent fiduciary to break the

1 gridlock and move them forward.

2 We had asked the Court to take judicial notice of the
3 pleadings which illustrated the level of acrimony between and
4 among the parties in this case, as well as the lack of faith in
5 debtors' management.

6 Your Honor, Section 1104A states, "The Bankruptcy
7 Court shall order the appointment of a trustee at any time
8 after commencement of the case but prior to confirmation of a
9 plan on request of a party in interest or the United States
10 Trustee and after notice of a hearing: (1) for cause, including
11 fraud, dishonesty, incompetence or gross mismanagement of the
12 affairs of the debtor by current management either before or
13 after the commencement of the case or similar cause, but not
14 including the number of holders of securities of the debtor or
15 the amount of assets or liabilities of the debtor; (2) if such
16 appointment is in the interest of creditors, any equity
17 security holders and other interests of the estate without
18 regard to the number of holders of securities of the debtor or
19 the amount of assets or liabilities of the debtor."

20 Your Honor, we believe that Subsection 1 addresses,
21 as it does, management's pre and post petition misdeeds,
22 mismanagement and other cause, and Subsection 2 provides the
23 Court with even wider flexibility and discretion to appoint a
24 trustee even absent a finding of wrongdoing or mismanagement.
25 Where the Court finds either that cause exists or that the

1 appointment is in the interest of the parties, creditors or
2 other parties, an order for the appointment of a trustee is
3 mandatory.

4 These cases are in our brief which we filed asking
5 for the appointment, Your Honor. They are In Re: Bellevue
6 Place Associates, The Official Committee of Asbestos, The
7 Sealed Air Corp, W.R. Grace.

8 The categories in 1104A cover a wide range of conduct
9 and are illustrative and not exclusive. Our citation to that
10 is again in our pleading, In Re Marble quoting the committee of
11 Dalkon Shield claimants, VAH Robbins.

12 The determination of whether cause exists is taken on
13 a case-by-case basis taking into account all relevant factors.
14 That was the court in Sharon Steel. We believe one of the
15 factors the Court should consider as cause is the delay and
16 acrimony in this case.

17 The delay and impasse are cause for the appointment
18 of a Chapter 11 trustee. Despite numerous attempts, the
19 debtors have been unable to comply with the terms of the
20 settlement agreement.

21 Your Honor, we believe that the appointment of a
22 trustee is in the best interest of the estate and its
23 creditors. Section 1104A2 of the Bankruptcy Code provides an
24 additional basis for the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee.
25 Courts have construed this section, A2, to provide a very

1 flexible standard. Again, our brief cites Sharon Steel for
2 this proposition.

3 The Court in Marble applied this flexible standard
4 and affirmed the District Court's appointment of a trustee in a
5 case where the level of acrimony found to exist certainly made
6 the appointment of a trustee in the best interest of the
7 parties and the estate. The Court concluded that the parties'
8 sharp divisions on many issues supported the District Court's
9 exercise of discretion in appointing a trustee.

10 Other courts have considered the following factors in
11 determining whether the appointment of a trustee is in the best
12 interest of the parties under 1104A2: the trustworthiness of
13 the debtor, the debtor's past and present performance and
14 prospects for the debtor's rehabilitation, the confidence or
15 lack thereof of the business community and of creditors in
16 present management and the benefits derived by the appointment
17 of a trustee balanced against the cost of the appointment.

18 Here an analysis of the relevant facts clearly
19 demonstrate that the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee is in
20 the best interest of parties and the debtors' estates as well
21 as the debtors' creditors.

22 The debtors' creditors have demonstrated they have no
23 trust in the management of the debtor, and as noted by the
24 Court, if these cases stay in their current posture, there is
25 no prospect for the debtors' rehabilitation.

1 The debtors' creditors have alleged that the debtors
2 have consistently placed the interests of management and equity
3 ahead of interests of creditors, in violation of their
4 fiduciary duties. The debtors' creditors allege that the
5 numerous delays encountered in this case stem not from the
6 debtors' inability to structure a deal, but from the debtors'
7 continuing attempts to structure a transaction wherein control
8 and/or equity is preserved for debtors' management.

9 While it is understandable that parties engaged in
10 contentious litigation for the better part of a decade would
11 potentially dislike one another, the level of distrust
12 exhibited by the parties in this case seems to permeate every
13 action and has prevented the debtors from making progress.
14 While some level of animosity is to be expected in these
15 circumstances, clearly these cases have been paralyzed, Your
16 Honor.

17 This paralysis, combined with the allegations of the
18 debtors' creditors, are sufficient justification for the
19 appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee. We believe it's warranted
20 therefore under Section 1104A2 of the Bankruptcy Code in order
21 to break the gridlock, break the impasse and move the ball
22 forward.

23 Here, as in the Sharon Steel case, the cost of
24 appointing a trustee would be trivial when compared to the
25 enormous benefit to be achieved from jump-starting the sale

1 process and re-establishing the trust and confidence in
2 management.

3 The appointment of a trustee would not necessarily
4 eliminate the continuity of operational management. The Court
5 in W.R. Grace noted that an appointed trustee may make the
6 rational decision to retain current management for the purposes
7 of continuing operations, but the trustee would oversee the
8 activities of management.

9 In this case, Your Honor, the operational companies,
10 as the Court has noted, are not in bankruptcy. A trustee would
11 evaluate these cases and would decide whether or not to replace
12 operational management or could very well leave operational
13 management alone.

14 As the Court is well aware, in cases of this size it
15 is the exception, not the rule -- it is the exception where
16 operational management is removed by a Chapter 11 trustee.

17 Further, Your Honor, the duties of a trustee are set
18 forth in the code. If the debtors disapprove of something the
19 trustee is doing or something that the trustee wants to do,
20 they can always bring notice to you before the Court for
21 adjudication.

22 Your Honor, the United States Trustee respectfully
23 submits that cause exists in these cases to compel the
24 appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee. The major creditors
25 support the appointment of a trustee. The cases have been

1 subject to delay, and we have reached an impasse. An
2 independent fiduciary will be able to break this gridlock, move
3 the cases forward and protect the interests of, not only
4 creditors, but also equity and other parties in interest.

5 I can proceed with our argument, Your Honor, against
6 the appointment of a responsible person at this time or I can
7 reserve that until later as the Court would --

8 THE COURT: You might as well do that --

9 MR. GEBHARDT: Okay.

10 THE COURT: -- because I really think they're kind of
11 flip sides of the same coin at this point.

12 MR. GEBHARDT: I'll be happy to do that, Your Honor.

13 At a previous hearing on the -- when the motion to
14 appoint a responsible person was discussed, the Court commented
15 that recently in the LeNature case the court in this district
16 had appointed a responsible person.

17 Your Honor, we submit that case -- the facts of that
18 case are easily distinguishable from those before the Court
19 today. The individual who was appointed a responsible party in
20 the LeNature case was a custodian who had -- in possession, a
21 custodian in possession who had been appointed by the Chancery
22 Court in Delaware. He was already in place.

23 Here there's no custodian or responsible party
24 already in place. In the LeNature case the Court was
25 attempting to work in harmony with the decisions of the

1 chancery court in Delaware.

2 In the cases -- the corporate cases before the Court,
3 Your Honor, the creditors and the United States Trustee oppose
4 the appointment of a responsible person.

5 Your Honor, the appointment of a responsible officer,
6 responsible person is a very important issue to the United
7 States Trustee. We believe as a matter of law the Court does
8 not have the authority to appoint a responsible officer under
9 105A of the Bankruptcy Code. If the debtor in possession
10 decides to hire an individual to negotiate with creditors and
11 spearhead the sale of the debtors' assets, they can do so now
12 in the ordinary course of business.

13 If they feel like they need to go to the Court to ask
14 permission to use cash collateral, to ask permission to pay
15 such a person, certainly they can do that, but we submit there
16 is no authority under the Bankruptcy Code as a matter of law
17 for the Court appointing a responsible person.

18 We believe, Your Honor, there are several reasons why
19 a Chapter 11 trustee is preferable to the appointment of a
20 responsible officer. A responsible officer would add another
21 set of professional costs to the estate and would be perceived
22 by the debtors' creditors as nothing more than a rubber stamp
23 for the debtors' current management. Current management would
24 remain responsible for the operation of the debtors' company in
25 the course of the case.

1 The responsible officer would report to the board of
2 directors and would not be independent. If the responsible
3 officer would report to the Court we would have something that
4 the Bankruptcy Code does not contemplate. A Chapter 11 trustee
5 however, is an independent fiduciary who will look after the
6 interests of all parties, creditors, equity and other parties
7 in interest.

8 As we have noted, Your Honor, the board of directors
9 has the authority in the ordinary course of business to change
10 its management or hire someone to negotiate with creditors and
11 prospective purchasers. The debtor can do that now.

12 As previously noted by the Court and the United
13 States Trustee in her argument, the primary goal to be achieved
14 by the appointment of an independent fiduciary in these cases
15 is to break the gridlock caused by the acrimony between the
16 parties and to prevent future delays caused by such acrimony.

17 The appointment of a responsible officer, which is
18 adamantly opposed by the debtors' creditors and the United
19 States Trustee, will do nothing to alleviate the concerns of
20 the debtors' creditors, and thus the appointment of a
21 responsible officer will do nothing to end the gridlock caused
22 by the parties' distrust of one another.

23 The appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee, however, is
24 supported by the major creditors, and on the record I believe
25 in the December 4th hearing, also supported by the preferred

1 shareholders or counsel for the preferred shareholders.

2 In conclusion, Your Honor, we do not believe the
3 responsible officer is an option. It is not authorized by the
4 Code. A Chapter 11 trustee is. A Chapter 11 trustee's duties
5 are clearly defined, and we believe that this case requires an
6 independent fiduciary to move the ball forward, break the
7 impasse, break the gridlock and preserve the assets of this
8 estate to benefit, not only creditors, but also equity and
9 other parties in interest.

10 Thank you, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Greendyke.

13 MR. GREENDYKE: Thank you, Judge.

14 Bill Greendyke for the RTFC. Judge, last Friday
15 morning in opening statements I started out by outlining for
16 the Court the matters that were pending and were set for
17 hearing originally last Friday. Those matters, as you know,
18 are the conversion motion that we tried earlier in the month
19 that's still pending under advisement before the Court.

20 We also have our 362, RTFC's 362 motion that's
21 pending. The Court has made some on-the-record comments about
22 that, that I alluded to last Friday to the effect that a
23 trustee, the appointment of a trustee would be perhaps one of
24 the best forms of adequate protection.

25 We also have pending the exclusivity motion that we

1 talked about, I think, last Friday as well as several earlier
2 hearings throughout the prior year.

3 One of the things that I want to allude to in
4 connection with the exclusivity motion that is, I think,
5 appropriate, this case and the way these hearings -- the way
6 these motions have sort of come together in today's hearing,
7 we've kept a number of matters under advisement. Some have
8 been moved along, such as exclusivity, but it's easy for us, as
9 lawyers, and hopefully not as easy for the Court to forget the
10 things that we talked about, the things that were shown to the
11 Court, the things that we've in effect relied upon as we've
12 moved almost like a rugby game to this hearing today.

13 In the hearings on exclusivity in early December we
14 had a great deal of testimony about the debtors' efforts to
15 value and then market the company. We had letters of intent
16 that the Court saw, and we had testimony from the debtors'
17 hired experts about how they marketed it and the manner in
18 which they marketed it, and I what I want to reflect upon at
19 some point later in my argument is that you saw and I think
20 made findings with regard to empirical value, which you saw
21 happen in front of you, what the debtors told you they had done
22 in the course of the case.

23 So, we have the exclusivity motion that don't want to
24 forget about. We also have today's responsible officer motion,
25 the U.S. Trustee's motion to appoint a trustee in the corporate

1 cases. Obviously we agree and have joined in the relief
2 requested by the U.S. Trustee in connection with the U.S.
3 Trustee's motion to appoint a trustee, and we also object to
4 and think the Court should deny the debtors' motion to appoint
5 a responsible officer.

6 Many issues exist in this case and play into these
7 five matters that I've just described. The parties, as the
8 Court I think has paraphrased, don't get along. The U.S.
9 Trustee calls it acrimony. There's no adequate protection for
10 the interests of the RTFC and Greenlight in connection with the
11 funds that would flow out of New ICC to fund any of these
12 debtor estates from Mr. Prosser.

13 There's no progress, as the U.S. Trustee has
14 eloquently highlighted. They call it delay, he calls it lack
15 of progress. Your words a couple of weeks ago were the debtors
16 are out of wiggle room. They tried one thing and then another,
17 and it's to the point -- I think your comment was, you know,
18 where are we going to go now? You're sort of out of options.

19 The debtors told you last -- Mr. Prosser told you
20 last Friday on the stand that they've had a data room available
21 since June of 2006 and still there's no over-the-bar type
22 offer, there's no offer that's binding in any way. There's
23 really no hot prospect in any way.

24 The next point is the administrative insolvency. I
25 think the Court has recognized early on that there's a

1 fundamental problem with these debtors don't have money, these
2 debtors have no employees, these debtors have no bank accounts.
3 We don't have the exhibits to this effect, but I think at any
4 point in the proceeding this Court or any other court can take
5 judicial notice of what's been filed before you. It's my
6 understanding that last night late or early this morning
7 amended operating reports were filed that -- where once there
8 were numbers with regard to the corporate debtors, there are
9 now zeroes.

10 There are no funds attributable to these debtors
11 because, I guess, they're not borrowing. I haven't fully
12 analyzed them. I haven't seen them. I don't want to
13 misrepresent anything to the Court. But they've changed the
14 monthly operating reports that they had previously filed in
15 order to survive your show cause order with respect to the
16 January 12th hearings.

17 There is, as you -- as we've argued, and I think the
18 Court has recognized, no legal way of getting money to the
19 debtor. It's advances, it's contra equity accounts. It's
20 whatever you want to call it, but there's no good way of
21 getting it done.

22 The debtors have filed a motion, I don't think in
23 response to our brief, but late last week we all filed papers,
24 the debtors and us, and I think Greenlight as well, talking
25 about the ability of funds to move in a manner that would

1 enable these debtors to survive a Chapter 11 process.

2 And the primary argument the debtors make in their
3 motion to allow this to occur is for you to either use 105,
4 which we all think is not a really good argument, or 363 of the
5 Bankruptcy Code, saying in effect, we've been doing this
6 forever, RTFC knew about this for years and years back in 2000
7 or 2001. They had folks on the board of Vitelco or New ICC and
8 -- as their argument goes, they knew about it then, they didn't
9 complain about it, it can't be bad now, it's the ordinary
10 course of business.

11 Our argument to you is that the ordinary course of
12 business is not the same as business as usual. And what the
13 debtors are asking you is this is business as usual, it's okay.
14 The problem is it doesn't really comport with the law anymore.

15 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, obviously, as we all
16 know, allows the debtor to use property of the estate in the
17 ordinary course of business. We're not talking about property
18 of the estate, we're talking about property of a judgment
19 debtor that we have liens against, we have judgments against --
20 or Greenlight has judgments against, and that's the property
21 that's being dissipated.

22 The way it's being dissipated is your debtors are
23 incurring a liability, or at least until this morning when they
24 changed the monthly operating reports, incurring an obligation
25 on their behalf that they can't repay.

1 Section 363B and C allow the debtor or the trustee to
2 use property of the estate. Section 363D, as in David, says,
3 "The trustee may use, sell or lease property under Subsection B
4 or C of this section only," number one, this is a brand new
5 amended provision of the statute, "in accordance with
6 applicable non-bankruptcy law that governs the transfer of
7 property by a corporation or trust that is not a money business
8 or commercial corporation or trust, and to the extent not
9 inconsistent with any relief granted under C, D, E or F of
10 Section 362."

11 If I go back up to one, it basically says no matter
12 what 363 says, whatever you say they can do, or whatever 363
13 purports to authorize by statute it can't be in contravention
14 of non-bankruptcy law. That's a recent amendment. That's
15 meant to say nothing we said in 363, we being Congress said in
16 363 is meant to preempt state law with regard to the propriety
17 of transactions.

18 So, these transactions that they're asking you to
19 bless under 363 can't be blessed, because Congress says they
20 can't be blessed because of it's an illegal dividend, it's an
21 illegal dividend. If it's a loan that's not going to be
22 repaid, I don't know that corporations make gifts, other than
23 to charitable entities or for charitable purposes.

24 If ICC is making gifts to New -- or to ICC/LLC or to
25 Emerging, we don't agree with that. We don't think the Court

1 can approve that.

2 Further, the argument that Mr. Prosser made was that
3 RTFC knew about all this back in 2000 and allowed it to occur.
4 Number one, this is 2007 and not the year 2000. Number two, in
5 2000 the debtors were not in bankruptcy. In 2000 the debtors
6 were paying RTFC and they had no Greenlight debt, as far as I
7 know. And last, they were not trying to discount our debt by
8 scores if not hundreds of millions of dollars.

9 This issue of loans or dividends from ICC presents a
10 conflict for Mr. Prosser and the debtors. And I tried to
11 highlight to that to the Court in my cross examination of Mr.
12 Carroll, and I think the Court's well aware of what the issues
13 are.

14 But the question is who decides if these advances or
15 these contra equity accounts or these dissipation of funds are
16 wrong or not? Who decides --

17 THE COURT: Or -- I --

18 MR. GREENDYKE: Are wrong or incorrect or illegal or
19 not. Who decides if these advances should stop? Who decides
20 if the debtors have any liability to anybody for these advances
21 from New ICC? Who decides whether to sue for illegal dividends
22 or for fraudulent transfers depending upon which creditor
23 interest -- whether it's the debtors or whether it's New ICC
24 you're trying to represent? The interests of New ICC are
25 represented by RTFC and Greenlight as its creditors. That's

1 where the fiduciary obligation is.

2 The only person who's going to make that decision is
3 Jeffrey Prosser, and that's why there's a conflict. That's why
4 there's a problem with regard to control.

5 The plan that was filed by the debtors is another
6 issue that's come about, and I know there was a lot of
7 discussion among the lawyers in the court about this. Mr.
8 Bartner has consented, I think, or stipulated, I believe, on
9 the record last Friday that the plan is not confirmable.

10 And my point is not to argue to you about non-
11 confirmability or not. My point -- my argument to the Court is
12 that the plan is something more than in and of itself a bad
13 faith approach. It shows you the whole structure and process
14 with regard to Mr. Prosser being in control.

15 Mr. Bartner says the plan is a runway. "It's our
16 best offer," "our first offer," whatever it might be, however
17 you want to characterize it. It's not just a runway. It's a
18 picture window. You stand in front of a picture window and you
19 watch the valley in front of you, but if you stand back a
20 little bit you also see a reflection of what's behind you. And
21 it reflects what's going on in Mr. Prosser's mind, it reflects
22 the history of these cases that Mr. Gephardt described to you,
23 and it reflects what's in store for us in the future as we look
24 out across the valley, because it tells us what's in his mind.

25 It tells us that we're going to discharge the debt of

1 a third party, non-debtor, which is ICC. That non-debtor
2 judgment debtor owes RTFC \$525 million plus interest today. It
3 owes Greenlight somewhere between 90 and maybe 130 million
4 dollars. That's a lot of debt. And in order to pay off those
5 debts it's going to have to also, to monetize Vitelco, pay off
6 the RUS, a government agency, and its preferred shareholders.
7 So, we're talking about, again -- as I mentioned to you back in
8 December, maybe \$800 million worth of debt. That's what the
9 plan purports to do.

10 It would allow exemptions, all kinds of exemptions
11 for Mr. Prosser. It would allow property that we otherwise
12 would have a lien upon to remain with the estate for
13 disposition in accordance with the terms of the plan or the
14 wishes of Mr. Prosser. It provides for deemed consolidation
15 and the release of all the intercompany claims that I just
16 spent a great deal of time telling you are problematic, that
17 are something that needs to be resolved.

18 So, at some point Mr. Prosser is in charge of this
19 whole evaluation process, and he's in charge of this plan
20 process. And we think the plan itself is a perfect reflection
21 of why this can't work the way it is and why control needs to
22 change in the way in which Mr. Gephardt has suggested. I don't
23 think -- RTFC says that a confirmable plan cannot be proposed
24 by Mr. Prosser.

25 Now, I talked about the exclusivity hearing. One of

1 the things -- one of the issues in this case that the Court has
2 often highlighted upon and come back to is value. And I think
3 that sometimes you have suggested, well, maybe we just need to
4 have a valuation hearing. My argument to the Court is we've
5 already had a valuation hearing.

6 On December the 11th -- and I refer to the
7 transcript, and the numbers are confusing, because they're
8 mirror images of each other -- but Page 218 of the transcript,
9 Line 19 through Page 219, Line 18 is the discussion you had
10 with Mr. Shelley of Shearman & Sterling and me about value, and
11 that was connection with the 362 motion that was set for
12 preliminary hearing, that's currently under advisement with the
13 Court, and that dove-tailed into the exclusivity hearing.

14 One of your statements, and I quote, is, "What more
15 is there with respect to value?" questioning Mr. Shelley. And
16 the last line, Line 18 of Page 219, you say to everybody in the
17 courtroom, "It's offensive." And I paraphrase, but basically
18 what I think the Court meant was there is no issue with regard
19 to value. Any further delay or restriction with regard to
20 value is offensive, because we've already heard what you've had
21 to say.

22 And indeed, the Court's reflection, I think, was
23 ratified by Mr. Bartner. Page 220, Line 9 of the same
24 transcript of December 11th he says, I quote, "We stand by Mr.
25 Michaelis' testimony. We must not forget Mr. Michaelis'

1 testimony." This is me talking, not Mr. Bartner.

2 He said that he used a seven and a half to eight and
3 a half times EBITDA factor to determine value for which to
4 pitch these properties. If we look at \$77 million of EBITDA
5 for the entire enterprise, not just New ICC and not just
6 Vitelco, but all of the stuff below New ICC, you come up with a
7 range of \$577 million to \$654 million, which lo and behold, is
8 right in the middle of all the offers that you saw.

9 And his testimony is supported by the yellow lies
10 that the Court candidly has -- not refused to take as value
11 evidence, but I'm refreshing the Court's memory about what
12 happened on December the 11th and the Court's comments with
13 regard to where we were with regard to value.

14 Remember that that \$577 million to \$654 million worth
15 of value using their formula is -- has to be as a gross number,
16 and it has to accommodate the RUS debt of \$65 million and the
17 preferred debt of \$85 million.

18 So, off the top we have 150 million before we have
19 any money to play with by the debtors. That's why we say,
20 given the current state of events and the current state of the
21 law and the current state of the history of the law of this
22 case is that Mr. Prosser's going to be out of the money. And
23 that's what presents the conflict that the Court needs to deal
24 with.

25 We argue to you that the response of the debtors to

1 these issues that we've confronted them with is not only to
2 fight the issues, which they've done well, but to create some
3 more. Part of what Mr. Gephardt talked about in describing the
4 acrimony between the parties is the flurry of pleadings that
5 have gone back and forth. We think -- we argue that the
6 debtors' attempt to blame us or others for delay and their
7 failure to sell the property or refinance the property or to
8 keep, adhere to or comply with the deadlines that the Court has
9 set upon them.

10 The sanctions motion is one of the most frivolous
11 things that I think I've ever seen. It's been argued to you
12 through our litigators with regard to discovery disputes, I
13 think the Court has some idea. You denied it once for
14 procedural grounds. We intend to try it. We think it is
15 frivolous. I don't mean to argue it today, other than to say
16 it is an indication of something we think is very indicative of
17 the way these cases should not be handled, the way we are doing
18 anything but trying to move the ball down the road.

19 The debtors move from tactic to tactic, as you have
20 mentioned in court. They've run out of wiggle room, because
21 they've exhausted all their opportunities to either refinance
22 or seek an equity partner or to sell or to do anything with the
23 property. We don't know where the folks who signed those LOI's
24 are. We don't know what they're doing. All well get is an
25 occasional letter, a copy of a letter from the VI. We've not

1 seen anybody from the VI who's come to you to tell you, "I
2 personally represent XYZ agency or I'm the governor of the
3 Virgin Islands, and I'm interested in buying Vitelco or any of
4 the other companies". All we have are hearsay indications and
5 not very concrete indications at that.

6 The assumption motion's been denied. You gave them a
7 chance to try and assume the terms and conditions and that's
8 been denied because of impossibility of performance. There is
9 no new assumption motion. Our legal argument is that it's
10 incapable of assumption at this point. It's incapable of cure
11 at this point. It's gone. We think that's, again, the law of
12 the case.

13 The debtors filed a claim objection. We've talked at
14 long length about the RTFC claims, the RTFC judgments, the
15 stipulation of claims, and the debtors have talked at long
16 length about the 402 and the terms and conditions and what to
17 do with us about that. It was the object of all the pleadings
18 between November 7th, when the assumption motion was denied,
19 and the beginning of the case.

20 The claim objection purports to deny our claim or
21 reduce our claim to the levels contemplated by the terms and
22 conditions, which again we think is a frivolous legal argument
23 at this point.

24 Then, notwithstanding your admonishments in open
25 court months before to not come to me with a proposal to undo

1 the terms and conditions and the consideration for the terms
2 and conditions that even levered you into the 402 discount
3 option, they file claims to say in the alternative we're going
4 to avoid the judgments on the basis of 547 or 548. They're
5 either preferences or the fraudulent transfer.

6 I can't believe that that's happening. We will
7 defend that in due course, in due time line, but again, that's
8 another indication of what's happened to try and slow this down
9 and deter us, notwithstanding what the Court's arguments have
10 been.

11 The responsible officer motion. There's no law that
12 supports the appointment of a responsible officer instead of a
13 trustee or some other authorized entity when the creditors of
14 the case and the U.S. Trustee object. Again, we think that's a
15 waste of time.

16 The motion to withdraw the reference to the district
17 court was another, we think, waste of time and dilatory if not
18 strategic tactic filed just before Christmas, as I recall, to
19 try and change the playing field, notwithstanding the great
20 deal of personal involvement and effort and time that this
21 Court has put in this case.

22 Our job as lawyers is to make things simple for you.
23 And I have to tell you it seems like really what we've done is
24 to point a wood chipper at you and start beating logs into the
25 wood chipper. This has not been a simple case when it really

1 should be a simple case. And our position really -- RTFC's
2 position has never really changed. Months ago I told you
3 every hearing from here on out is going to be about control.
4 And it still remains the same.

5 All these motions are about control and what to do
6 with control. I think control should change, and that is the
7 simple point that we want to bring to you today. Everything we
8 have done has been about control.

9 Why should control change? Number one, delay. We've
10 been here for a year, as Mr. Gephardt says, and there's no
11 progress. This delay highlights the value, and intuitively
12 I've argued to the Court that if the value was there, something
13 would be happening. The value is not there and nothing is
14 happening, because a value is not there. Another reason why
15 nothing is happening, because the value is not there.

16 THE COURT: Excuse me. Did we lose the people in the
17 Virgin Islands or just on the call?

18 MS. RICH: I think we're still here, Your Honor.
19 This is Carol Rich in the Virgin Islands.

20 THE COURT: Okay, we're just going to take a pause or
21 refresh for a few minutes while we try to re-connect the
22 telephone then. Thank you.

23 MS. RICH: Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Parties back on the phone?

25 MR. MOOREHEAD: we are. Thank you very much, Your

1 Honor.

2 THE COURT: Back in the Virgin Islands?

3 MS. RICH: We're here, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

5 All right, Mr. Greendyke. Sorry. Go ahead.

6 MR. GREENDYKE: Before I was interrupted by the
7 technical difficulties, my point was our position RTFC's
8 position has never changed. Our position is control in this
9 case should change. Why? Because of delay. As Mr. Gephardt
10 highlighted, we've been here for a year. There's been no
11 progress. This delay highlights the findings the Court I think
12 can make and should make with regard to value.

13 The value of the property is not sufficient to do
14 what Mr. Prosser wants to do, which in turn highlights the fact
15 that he has a conflict in management of this case. He is
16 incapable of managing the case given where we are with regard
17 to the debts and the value and the amount of time that's
18 transpired.

19 Third -- second, really, why. Administrative
20 insolvency. This highlights the fact that there is a lack of
21 adequate protection and that there are conflicts with regard to
22 the manner in which transactions or transfers of funds have
23 occurred from the non-debtor New ICC to either Mr. Prosser or
24 to Emerging or to ICC/LLC. We can't do it the way in which
25 they want to do it, notwithstanding how they're booking it.

1 It's not a loan that's going to be repaid, which is wrong with
2 regard to the debtors, and it's wrong with regard to New ICC.

3 It can't be a dividend, because ICC is, by state law,
4 incapable of making a dividend because of the lack of value and
5 because of the way their balance sheets read. It can't work
6 that way.

7 We don't know, and we don't have an opinion with
8 regard to the tax consequences of these transfers to the
9 debtors and to Mr. Prosser, but my guess is and my instinct is
10 that there's a problem with regard to that.

11 Thirdly, impossibility of any progress in the absence
12 of some change in control. This again highlights value, it
13 highlights the debts, and it highlights the conflicts that we
14 argue exist between Mr. Prosser and his creditors and Mr.
15 Prosser and his fiduciary duty with regard to the estates.

16 1129A10 issue. If all the debt is sitting on this
17 side of the room and it is as big as we say it is, and right
18 now it is, there's no way, given the value that we have, that
19 he can confirm a plan over our objection. It just can't happen
20 as a matter of law.

21 THE COURT: We did -- are we back on the telephone?
22 Did we lose you again?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're still here with Court
24 Call, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: You're still there? Okay. And in the

1 Virgin Islands, are you still there?

2 MS. RICH: We're here, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Okay. I think we're back on. Thank you.

4 MR. GREENDYKE: We think, given our jobs to highlight
5 for you how to simplify these cases, that only the appointment
6 of a trustee can solve all these issues that I detailed for you
7 before I started talking about simplification.

8 It is simply the best and what's best for all these
9 estate. With the third party at the helm in complete control,
10 conversion motion goes away, responsible officer motion goes
11 away and the exclusivity motion doesn't matter anymore, really.
12 It solves the administrative insolvency problem and the
13 adequate protection problem, because I told you last Friday if
14 you appoint a trustee we will support a trustee, and we will
15 negotiate with a trustee, a funded trustee, and his
16 professionals or her professionals in order to get this ball
17 rolling and to get on down the road in this case.

18 We don't feel the same way about a responsible
19 officer party. We don't feel that a responsible officer would
20 adequately protect us the same way a trustee would, the same
21 way the Court suggested a trustee would.

22 The appointment of a trustee would solve the problem
23 with regard to the funding motion and would solve the problem
24 that you have with regard to what to do with the 362 motion.
25 It would solve the problem that we currently have of no

1 progress in the case, because it would give us hope for
2 progress in the future, because we'd have a disinterested third
3 party governing the debtors who are now in bankruptcy.

4 The trustee will be able to address claims, the
5 trustee will be able to address dividends, the trustee will be
6 able to address advances, loans and the salaries of the
7 parties. There will not be a change in control problem with
8 regard to the appointment of a trustee. And I know that's
9 something that in the past has been argued to the Court and we
10 expect will be heard in greater detail.

11 We have a regulatory lawyer with us. If we delve
12 into an argument in substantial detail with either Mr.
13 Moorehead or anybody else with regard to this change in control
14 issue I would like to defer and reserve the ability to respond
15 to that to Mr. Bressie, because he knows a lot more about it
16 than I do. He is the expert.

17 But basically the bottom line is nothing in the
18 Bankruptcy Code gives way to any type of state entity with
19 regard to how you administer your case. While 362 might have a
20 provision that says police powers of the states get to be
21 exercised and it's not a violation of the stay, there is no
22 exception with regard to 1104 and the appointment of a trustee.
23 You get to do what you want to do because Congress and the
24 constitution say the supremacy clause trumps state law with
25 regard to this type of issue. And there is no countervailing

1 policy, there is no countervailing authority, there is no
2 authority that says otherwise with regard to how this is
3 handled.

4 It's not the same as a sale of the assets that needs
5 to be subject to state law. It's not the same as a sale. It's
6 different, and we argue that there is no change of control
7 implication, in part because of the way the Bankruptcy Code
8 reads, but also because of the way the FCC and other state,
9 public utility or public service commission laws read. No one
10 -- no other state entity has made a challenge or survived a
11 challenge. There's no authority that says that this is a
12 change of control.

13 In sharp contrast, and again, as Mr. Bressie can
14 detail for you in much greater detail, there is no law with
15 regard to responsible authority and the impact or the reaction
16 of the FCC or local public utility commissions or service
17 commissions with regard to a responsible officer. No one knows
18 what it is, because the law doesn't define what it is, and it
19 only happens when parties consent. Therefore, there's no game
20 plan. There's no rules. There's no nothing with regard to a
21 responsible officer or responsible party, and that's why we
22 think that's a bad decision, it's a bad suggestion by the
23 debtors and a bad decision by the Court.

24 With regard to a trustee, Mr. Prosser testified in
25 response to Mr. Gerber's questions. If you appoint a trustee,

1 he testified, he promised you that he would cooperate with a
2 trustee. That maintained the continuity that I think the Court
3 is interested in, in connection with whatever you do today.

4 Obviously this is not working the way it's working
5 now. We're suggesting the appointment of a trustee is
6 appropriate. Mr. Prosser has told the Court under oath, and we
7 assume he's telling the truth, that if you appoint a trustee he
8 will help. It's in his interest, if he thinks he has an equity
9 interest, to help to try and maximize value. It's in
10 everybody's interest to have a trustee in place to oversee that
11 on a statutory framework basis to make sure that the law is
12 abided by and the rights of all the parties are protected in a
13 very circumspect way.

14 That's why we say to you, Judge, the best solution to
15 simplify all this is to grant the U.S. Trustee's motion, the
16 one in which the RTFC and Greenlight have joined in, appoint a
17 trustee and deny the responsible officer motion.

18 Thank you.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Galardi.

20 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, we agree with the U.S.
21 Trustee and RTFC, so what I'll try to do is just fill in some
22 holes with respect to that.

23 First, Your Honor, with respect to LeNature's that
24 was mentioned by the U.S. Trustee, importantly, I think, Your
25 Honor should know that on January 9th Chief Judge McCullough

1 appointed a trustee as opposed to a responsible person, in part
2 because how you would define the tasks of what a responsible
3 person would do became itself a difficult task, which I think
4 is a lesson to be learned for this case. Because the
5 difference between a responsible officer and a trustee, as I
6 think has been outlined by both the U.S. Trustee and Mr.
7 Greendyke, the responsible officer is essentially a concession
8 by the debtors that a sale process needs to be led by somebody
9 else. There's a conflict. There's an issue.

10 It was at Your Honor's suggestion to try to get
11 people on the same page, but as I think the testimony has come
12 out over December and January, there are many more issues that
13 have to be confronted than the sale process, and indeed, to a
14 large extent the sale process is in fact dead as we sit here
15 today.

16 Your Honor may recall when -- I think this goes to
17 exclusivity, exclusivity the first round we argue expired on
18 November 28th or 29th. They asked for 60 days. They came in
19 on December 4th. We had a preliminary hearing. Your Honor
20 listened and said, "Well, let's come back on January 9th or
21 January 12th, and I better have something in hand. I don't
22 care about the holidays."

23 Well, we came back, and we didn't have anything on
24 hand. We heard about the government, we heard about the
25 governor, we heard about the GERS, but we didn't have anything

1 in hand.

2 So, we extended it two weeks. So, we extended it two
3 weeks. Well, as we sit here today, Your Honor, we have
4 absolutely nothing in hand. If they had been granted the
5 extension originally, we would have had an extension of
6 exclusivity to five days from now. So, they file a plan as
7 their chance.

8 On information and belief the governor announced that
9 he doesn't support the bond issuance in the last two days, and
10 all we have is one letter of intent and no plan -- and a plan
11 that says they're going to try to pay us off by the end of
12 2007.

13 So, Your Honor, we have made absolutely no progress
14 to date, and a responsible officer -- I don't even know what
15 the responsible officer would do other than possibly pursue the
16 Guadalupe and the other transaction that's three steps removed,
17 four steps removed at least from these entities.

18 So, we think that the responsible officer motion
19 should be denied.

20 In addition, Your Honor, they've come in, and I think
21 Mr. Greendyke has pointed this out, seeking 363 relief. There
22 is no payments, there is no assets in the estate. Their motion
23 concedes again that we will hear sometime either February or
24 March that it's New ICC to fund. I think Mr. Greendyke is
25 absolutely correct. 363 does not allow it if it's illegal, and

1 the testimony is whether you call it a dividend -- it's not a
2 loan. They haven't sought to pay this pursuant to a loan, 364.
3 So, it's a gift.

4 And so, Your Honor, I would ask Your Honor to look at
5 the Virgin Islands law on both dividends and on fraudulent
6 conveyances. Title 13, in particular Sections 91 through 118,
7 say you can't make illegal dividends. It's very much like
8 Delaware law. You don't have the capital.

9 And the Virgin Islands law, Title 28, Sections 171
10 through I think it's 179 and again at 201 to 212 --

11 THE COURT: What were the Title 13 sections? I'm
12 sorry.

13 MR. GALARDI: I'm sorry, the Title 13 sections begin
14 at 91 where it goes to stock issuance, and it goes to 118 on
15 the liability of directors and officers for unlawful dividends.

16 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

17 MR. GALARDI: And then with respect to the Virgin
18 Islands law, first the Virgin Islands tries to incorporate the
19 Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and then there are separate
20 other sections. Importantly from Greenlight's perspective,
21 Your Honor, we can -- and New York law, we will argue, does the
22 same thing -- we can, as a pending litigation, pending as of
23 1998, go back and undo all of these transactions if we're not
24 paid in full, and that's our intention to do so.

25 So, we believe that they're at least fraudulent

1 conveyance and/or illegal dividends that they're being funding,
2 and they're not making loans they admit, they don't even use a
3 predicate. So, we think that the responsible officer motion
4 should be denied, first because there's really nothing left for
5 that person to do at this stage. Maybe we can jump-start a
6 sale process, but a trustee can do that.

7 There is no money to pay. The RTFC and Greenlight
8 will not consent to any funds being set up -- sent upstream, so
9 we're going to be in another litigation if a responsible
10 officer -- and if it means that New ICC may be in bankruptcy,
11 it may be in bankruptcy too, because there seems to be no
12 stopping Mr. Prosser from using the funds of a non-debtor to
13 pay advances -- whatever you want to characterize those -- to
14 debtors and to avoid the obligations to the creditors of New
15 ICC.

16 So, Your Honor, though you have authority to appoint
17 -- to approve a CRO, this is not a CRO. This is a court-
18 appointed person, and we don't think you have authority under
19 105 or 363 to grant the motion for a responsible officer.

20 Now, with respect to the conversation, the trustee
21 motions, Your Honor, we believe that the evidence does, in
22 fact, show gross management, failure to file reports and
23 schedules, continuing losses not likely to be rehabilitated.
24 And, Your Honor, at the very least the testimony is that there
25 are factual issues on all of these points.

1 For example, we've spent a lot of time on these
2 intercompany transfers, advances. The deposition testimony of
3 Mr. Prosser was first that they were debts to be repaid, and he
4 gave an answer in the deposition testimony that they would, in
5 fact, be repaid if he could only sell the downstream entities.

6 Then we get to Mr. Lubana and Mr. Prosser's
7 testimony, "Oh, there was never an intention to repay these."
8 Then we get the testimony most recently, "Well, there was never
9 an intention to pay these if we did a merger activity."

10 Well, the problem is we now have a bar date that has
11 passed where New ICC is not scheduled, we have the 30 days
12 since the bar date has passed where the debtors didn't file
13 even contingent or disputed claims, and we have now an issue as
14 to whether there are debts there or not, and no one to be able
15 to investigate whether this is proper or not, whether these are
16 obligations owed.

17 There were clearly notes in the fist instance, they
18 were clearly assets. So, we have a combination of debts that
19 we think may -- I hope that they turn out to be gifts, but if
20 they're not gifts then there's debt out there. And there is no
21 person -- the clear testimony has been Mr. Prosser is in
22 control of all of these entities. He testified he was in
23 control of all of these entities, General Ebbesen in his
24 deposition testified that he's in control of all of these
25 entities, and the Court of Chancery for the State of Delaware

1 found that he was in control, and to the extent there was a
2 board, the board was conflicting.

3 And Mr. Prosser's testimony, again not controverted,
4 is that the board of New ICC, which has now been formed, that
5 -- the committee, the subcommittee to determine about the
6 advances, are exactly the same people who were found to be
7 beholden to Mr. Prosser and therefore conflicted and breached
8 their fiduciary duties to Greenlight originally and are
9 breaching their fiduciary duties as we sit here today by making
10 the advances.

11 So, Your Honor, we believe the cause is ample for
12 appointing a trustee. The fact of the matter is there is
13 delay. There is an admittedly unconfirmable plan on file.
14 There is the failure to file timely reports and schedules, and
15 then once they file them, as Mr. Greendyke alluded to, we now
16 have new operating reports this morning to reflect the
17 testimony and the mistakes they made the first time.

18 So, again, the distrust, the inability, the
19 irregularity of the financial reports, all of those things
20 continue, and they will not stop until there is a trustee
21 appointed.

22 Sure, would the creditors have liked to take control
23 of this case and direct this and maybe get Mr. Prosser out of
24 there entirely? Yes. But Your Honor pointed out that you
25 don't want to give control to Greenlight and RTFC. You don't

1 want to give control to Mr. Prosser. So, the question is
2 what's the proper compromise position? Again, I think Mr.
3 Gerber brought out the testimony, and I believe I brought out
4 the testimony that if you appoint a person, it should be a
5 trustee, but a trustee doesn't have to replace operational
6 management and certainly not at the non-debtor subsidiaries.
7 And Mr. Prosser, who was under the impression that he
8 automatically steps out, as Your Honor knows, that's not the
9 law.

10 The U.S. Trustee who appoints a Chapter 11 trustee,
11 if they believe that there is value and that Mr. Prosser serves
12 a value or that the operational employees serve a purpose to
13 maximize value, we can maintain that. And I think what the
14 RTFC and Greenlight has said is once there is a trustee who
15 makes such a recommendation to us, we will be -- we will
16 consider whether such funding is appropriate. We will do it on
17 commercial terms. We will understand what is going on. But
18 until that happens, the animosity, the acrimony and the
19 fighting will continue.

20 So, we think today is a very important hearing, and
21 the decision is critical, because it will shape the rest of
22 these cases. It will determine today whether the fighting
23 begins or at least subsides for the near future.

24 The exclusivity, if it is terminated, Your Honor, we
25 would file a competing plan. We will have the value fight that

1 Your Honor has talked about. If a trustee is appointed, Your
2 Honor, yes, exclusivity terminates, but we can discuss with the
3 trustee whether or not there is a need for a competing plan.
4 Let that trustee have funds to make an unbiased, unconflicted
5 decision.

6 With respect to the conversation motion, Your Honor,
7 we think we have demonstrated grounds why Mr. Prosser's case
8 lacks an ability to rehabilitate.

9 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor, forgive me for
10 interrupting, but I thought we were not arguing the
11 conversation motion today. Your Honor said a couple of times
12 we're done with it.

13 THE COURT: No, I don't think we've had closing
14 arguments on the conversation, did we?

15 MR. GALARDI: I didn't think so, either.

16 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I thought Your Honor said that we
17 did have closing arguments. I think it's on the record. We
18 did have closing arguments. To my recollection you said we
19 weren't going to talk about it anymore.

20 THE COURT: Okay, I apologize. I did not think we
21 did the closing arguments. If we did then I've just simply
22 forgotten them, but I don't recall having done the closing
23 arguments on the conversion.

24 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I thought we did, Your Honor.
25 Maybe I'm wrong.

1 THE COURT: Well, somebody have a transcript and go
2 back and look?

3 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, I thought we had five
4 motions, and I still count five that includes the conversion.
5 So, I apologize. I had not understood the closing argument.

6 THE COURT: Well, let's defer the conversion
7 'til somebody can go back and take a look.

8 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: That's fine.

9 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, so with respect to the
10 grounds again, we would ask Your Honor again to review the
11 transcript, the record, and we believe that, one, Your Honor is
12 without authority to appoint the sort of responsible person
13 that the debtors have requested. We think that cause exists to
14 appoint a trustee and has been demonstrated by the delay, the
15 acrimony, the history, the findings of the Chancery Court.

16 With respect to exclusivity, Your Honor, I don't know
17 whether you want to consider it mood because they filed a plan
18 and we've sought to terminate the exclusivity now with respect
19 to the solicitation period. They haven't even filed a
20 disclosure statement. Had Your Honor granted the relief
21 originally, it only goes to January 26th or 27th anyway, so
22 there should be another motion if there's exclusivity. They
23 haven't filed a disclosure statement. They can't solicit it.

24 THE COURT: I'm sorry, but who sought to terminate
25 exclusivity?

1 MR. GALARDI: We did. We filed a cross motion with
2 respect to -- because of the 1014 motion, Your Honor?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 MR. GALARDI: They had said that the thought it
5 hadn't even started to run, and if it ran it would be sixty
6 days more. We in the cross motion said, Your Honor, we think
7 that it's run.

8 THE COURT: Oh, okay.

9 MR. GALARDI: And in addition, to the extent that it
10 hasn't run because of the 1014 stay, we would ask that it be
11 terminated for cause.

12 Your Honor, so we would again say that, you know, the
13 exclusivity motion and the solicitation period, any further
14 extension of that should not be granted, and we would ask Your
15 Honor to enter an order appointing a trustee.

16 THE COURT: Okay, with respect to the motion that's
17 been heard, I am relatively sure that the arguments were not
18 made, because I thought I wanted to hear the rest of this
19 evidence, because I was not comfortable considering the motion
20 to convert until the rest of this proceeding was concluded.

21 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I could be wrong, Your Honor, as I
22 said. I recall that we had a discussion, simply that the
23 evidence was done, and I thought that we argued closing, but I
24 -- honestly, there have been so many hearings, maybe I'm wrong.

25 THE COURT: Well, and that might be my problem, too,

1 Mr. Lichtenstein. Definitely the evidence was closed. I have
2 no dispute with that fact, but I did not think the arguments
3 had been done. So, did anybody get a transcript from what, two
4 weeks ago?

5 MR. SHELLEY: Your Honor, this is Scott Shelley from
6 Shearman & Sterling.

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 MR. SHELLEY: Page 261 of the January 9th transcript
9 is the start of closing arguments.

10 THE COURT: It is? Okay, thank you.

11 All right, then I guess it was argued.

12 Ms. Kelley?

13 MS. KELLEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 Your Honor, at many of these hearings, really at each
15 hearing, on the many motions that have come before the Court
16 we've heard very similar rhetoric from the creditors, and we've
17 heard it so many times that one could think there was evidence
18 in the record to support some of these statements, but I think
19 the Court will find that for many of them there simply is not.
20 And the creditors, as well as the U.S. Trustee, have had the
21 opportunity to put on evidence now to support these wide-
22 ranging allegations.

23 And the debtors feel strongly that when the Court
24 looks at this you will see that they have failed to meet the
25 very high standard of clear and convincing evidence necessary

1 to appoint a trustee in these cases, or for that matter to
2 obtain the wide range of relief that they have also been
3 requesting, but which we have argued about at the previous
4 hearing.

5 We have heard repeatedly that control needs to change
6 or that there is some sort of conflicts. Again, the evidence,
7 if you look at the evidence in detail, there is nothing
8 affirmative put forward that would support this as a matter of
9 clear and convincing evidence.

10 Today we started to hear additionally about illegal
11 dividends and administrative insolvency. Your Honor, we did
12 file the motion that the Court had requested us to file
13 regarding the funding. And there hasn't obviously been a
14 hearing on that motion. It was not on for hearing today. The
15 RTFC has also filed a brief on that subject, and in due course
16 evidence, as necessary, will be presented, and that can be
17 heard.

18 But to talk about illegal dividends as if that is a
19 foregone conclusion, when this matter is not only not before
20 the Court, but there is simply no evidence of this in the
21 record, is inappropriate. And the Court should not simply
22 begin from that starting point, assuming this can't be paid
23 for.

24 THE COURT: Well, I'm not starting about the -- or
25 from the point at which I'm making the conclusion that there

1 are illegal dividends. But I am starting from a point that in
2 looking at the schedules and in hearing the evidence,
3 specifically from Mr. Prosser and from the CFO of New ICC, both
4 of whom I credit in this respect. Neither of the debtors have
5 any employees, have any operating assets. Emerging owns stock
6 and it owns the property that it uses when employees come into
7 town in lieu of putting up those employees in a hotel, but for
8 which doesn't charge rent and doesn't get any income.

9 So, from an administrative insolvency viewpoint,
10 right now it appears that unless these debtors can figure out
11 some source of income, they are administratively insolvent.
12 That seems to be the case.

13 The stock is encumbered by perfected liens, so I am
14 not sure how I can draw any conclusion other than the fact that
15 they're administratively insolvent.

16 Now, that doesn't mean, although you'd think it would
17 mean, it doesn't mean I think in these cases, given the very
18 unusual structure of these corporations in the setting in which
19 these cases find themselves, that they still may not be able to
20 confirm a plan, because assuming that you can get enough value
21 out of those stock assets -- the assets represented by the
22 stock, the operating entities -- that there is enough value
23 over and above the liens to pay off the debt and return
24 something to other creditors besides the lienors. There may
25 very well be enough to confirm a plan at this level.

1 It's a highly unusual circumstance, but I do have to
2 start from the premise that right now on these books and
3 records these cases are administratively insolvent. I'm not
4 sure how you get around that premise.

5 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, I understand what Your
6 Honor is saying. I think the RTFC is taking that a step
7 further and saying therefore, for example, a responsible
8 officer cannot be appointed or a trustee is the only option.
9 And we do not believe that those conclusions the RTFC is asking
10 the Court to draw flow from the lack of employees or cash on
11 hand at the level of the debtors.

12 And I will talk further in a few minutes about the
13 funding of expenses, but I wanted to mention that point at the
14 beginning.

15 There was another point that was mentioned with
16 respect to valuation, and that perhaps a valuation of New ICC
17 had already somehow taken place or -- of Emerging's assets,
18 which obviously is the stock of New ICC.

19 And I just wanted to remind the Court, as the Court
20 has mentioned at several previous hearings, I believe on
21 January 9th the Court said that we would need to have valuation
22 testimony in due course regarding that issue. And at the last
23 hearing in fact at Page 278 the Court said that we don't know
24 what the value is at this time. We have a bid and ask.

25 THE COURT: Well, for relief from stay purposes. For

1 relief from stay purposes, valuation has to be looked at for
2 the purpose for which it's proffered. And what I think I said
3 was for the purpose of the relief from stay hearings the fact
4 that the debtors have offers and the fact that the debtors have
5 put forth a, from a business offer to sell perspective, what it
6 thinks a fair capitalization of its earnings is for purposes of
7 getting offers in the door is not the means all and end all for
8 purposes of relief from stay.

9 It certainly is sufficient for purposes of
10 determining what the debtor's valuing its assets for in terms
11 of looking for a refinance or for purposes of looking for a
12 sale or for some other purposes. but valuation in the
13 Bankruptcy Code has different meaning at different times. And
14 so that's what I was attempting to say.

15 So, these comments about valuations cannot be taken
16 out of context, and I want to make it very clear on this
17 record, the purpose for which I'm looking for some, you know,
18 bricks and mortar type of valuation is a relief from stay
19 hearing.

20 All I was saying at that time was I'm not certain
21 that for the relief from stay hearing I have the sufficient
22 evidence of that type of value to determine that relief from
23 stay may be appropriate, but I think that there is enough
24 evidence of record, even from the debtor's perspective, to
25 convince me that some form of adequate protection is necessary.

1 That's all.

2 Now, if that's what you're saying, then I apologize,
3 but that wasn't what I was hearing you say.

4 MS. KELLEY: I think I may be agreeing with you, Your
5 Honor, that the -- any valuation evidence that is in the record
6 is specific to various issues.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 MS. KELLEY: And my point was really that when we're
9 talking about valuation or when we're talking about, for
10 example, whether a dividend by New ICC, a non-debtor is illegal
11 or the value of New ICC or whether it has sufficient assets to
12 be making a dividend, all issues which are not before the Court
13 today, and I don't know if they would ever be before the Court,
14 but certainly the valuation discussions that have -- that are
15 in the record to date do not address that issue.

16 And if that issue were to be reached at some point,
17 certainly there would have to be proper valuation evidence.

18 THE COURT: But I think there is evidence with
19 respect to that issue, because the Virgin Islands statute talks
20 in terms of capitalization of the corporation, and there's
21 plenty of evidence about valuation -- or pardon me, the
22 capitalization. That's -- Mr. Prosser spent several hours on
23 the stand talking about the capitalization of the enterprise.

24 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, I think that the
25 market value of New ICC would have to be considered in order to

1 even begin to make that determination of whether New ICC could,
2 in fact, issue a dividend, and we have not had testimony from
3 an expert on that issue. And so the debtor's argument would be
4 that you'd have to consider the market value of New ICC and
5 whether that exceeds its capital.

6 And again, New ICC is a non-debtor, and clearly this
7 issue isn't before the Court today, and it remains to be seen
8 whether it will be before the Court in some further hearing.

9 THE COURT: Frankly, the dividend issue at the moment
10 is the least of my worries. The concern that I have is that
11 these debtors, but for whatever you want to call this transfer
12 of money from New ICC into the debtors seems to be the only
13 source of money that the debtors have. The debtors do incur
14 expenses and the debtors have no other source of money.

15 Now, the debtors have to reconcile that somewhere. I
16 don't understand how New ICC is making the gift to the debtors
17 for that purpose, if it is. That's fine, from the debtors'
18 perspective. I don't know what that does from New ICC's
19 perspective, but for the debtors, okay. Maybe that's okay.
20 But we need to find out what that transfer is.

21 If in fact it's a loan, the debtors haven't gotten
22 this Court's authority to get loans, either in or outside the
23 ordinary course of business, so I need a motion. That's what I
24 think I said earlier. If you've got some motion on record,
25 fine. We'll hear it in February. You know, we'll find out

1 what it's all about, and life will march forward from that
2 point on.

3 So, the dividend issue is a characterization issue
4 right now for the financial statement purposes. It may fit
5 into the trustee motion to the extent that somebody has to
6 reconcile what these transfers within these companies and
7 accurately account for them. And if Mr. Prosser and his staff
8 can't -- not so much can't but aren't doing it and aren't
9 willing to do it, then somebody else may need to do it. But as
10 a matter of either accounting or tax concerns, that's well
11 beyond where this Court's going right now.

12 I'm not concerned with that specific spin on this
13 matter right now.

14 MS. KELLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. As I was
15 pointing out, I think the important thing to consider today is
16 whether, in fact, the standard of clear and convincing evidence
17 showing cause or that the appointment of a trustee is in the
18 best interest of the estates has been met.

19 And we believe that this has not been met and that
20 this is simply another avenue by which the creditors, as they
21 have conceded at various times, are attempting to wrest control
22 of the companies from Mr. Prosser, who we just heard the
23 creditors describe as being in control.

24 So --

25 THE COURT: Well, there isn't any dispute that he's

1 in control. He's admitted that he is in control. He has
2 boards -- you know, his own testimony is essentially that to
3 the extent that there are boards -- not so much with respect to
4 audit committees, but there are boards and he has admitted on
5 his -- on the witness stand that to the extent that there is a
6 final decision to be made, he's the entity that they come to,
7 and he makes the final decision. So, he is in control. I
8 don't think there's an issue about that, is there?

9 MS. KELLEY: No, he certainly is the ultimate
10 shareholder of the companies. My point is simply that that
11 alone, obviously, does not warrant the appointment of a trustee
12 and that further evidence of cause must be shown before he
13 would be replaced with a trustee.

14 The trustee -- the U.S. Trustee argues that there has
15 been acrimony in these cases and that there has been delay.
16 Certainly there has been an acrimonious relationship among the
17 parties, but acrimony alone, dislike between the parties alone
18 does not warrant the appointment of a trustee. Further
19 evidence must be shown that it is -- has paralyzed the cases or
20 otherwise prevented them from going forward. We do not think
21 that that has been shown here.

22 In several hearings there has been testimony
23 regarding the work that the debtors have been doing in good
24 faith since the beginning of the cases, in fact. Matt
25 Michaelis testified at December -- at the December 11th hearing

1 regarding the efforts of the debtors throughout the involuntary
2 and voluntary cases to achieve a sale or financing.

3 He further testified that Mr. Prosser and management
4 have been involved and working diligently toward that goal,
5 that they were committed to a closing --

6 THE COURT: Excuse me. Can we turn that microphone
7 up? I know there's feedback, but I can't hear her very well.
8 She has a very soft voice, and we'll hope not to blast too
9 loud. I'm sorry.

10 Okay, thank you.

11 MS. KELLEY: I was trying to avoid the feedback, Your
12 Honor.

13 THE COURT: I know.

14 MS. KELLEY: He testified further that the -- that
15 management, including Mr. Prosser, throughout this process have
16 been committed to achieving a sale or financing as quickly as
17 possible and that there was no activity on Mr. Prosser's part
18 to obstruct the closing of any such transaction.

19 And that appears in the December 11th transcript,
20 Pages 20 to 23 and again at Page 37.

21 Mr. Michaelis's testimony, as well as Mr. Prosser's
22 testimony on December 11th also contradicts arguments that have
23 come up from time to time that the debtors have in some way
24 misled the Court about timing, and I think the Court heard
25 clearly at that hearing that the initial deal structure was a

1 simple refinancing which would not require regulatory approval
2 and that later evolved into an asset sale and then came to
3 involve an equity component. And each of these changes added
4 levels of complexity and time, and therefore, the outlook,
5 foreclosing any transaction, had changed along with it.

6 Mr. Prosser's testimony on December 11th as well as
7 his testimony on January 9th and January 19th shows that these
8 efforts are continuing with the GERS and with the Virgin
9 Islands government, and that he and the debtors are fulfilling
10 their fiduciary duties. And this testimony appears in the
11 December 11th transcript at Pages 98 through 101, 104 through
12 107 and 109 through 111, as well as in the January 9th
13 transcript at Page 132.

14 Mr. Prosser testified on January 19th that the
15 debtors are currently pursuing a two-part transaction, both the
16 sale of Vitelco to the GERS or the Virgin Islands government,
17 as well as the sale of Down Island Companies valued at
18 approximately \$100 million.

19 And he further testified that due diligence has been
20 ongoing over the past ten days with respect to the sale of the
21 Down Island Companies.

22 As I mentioned before, Your Honor, the fact that Mr.
23 Prosser is the ultimate shareholder of these companies does not
24 mean that he has abandoned his fiduciary duties to act in
25 creditors' best interests. And there is certainly no clear and

1 convincing evidence of this in the record.

2 In fact, the debtors submit that the evidence on the
3 record shows just the opposite. He has been working diligently
4 to obtain funding to pay the creditors. In the January 9th
5 transcript at Page 132 he said on cross examination, in
6 responding to a question -- well, the question said, "Well, in
7 the negotiations you're currently conducting for the possible
8 sale of your business, is it your understanding that you have a
9 duty to try to maximize the value of the estate of Emerging and
10 ICC/LLC?"

11 And he responded, "Well, it is certainly my
12 understanding and my drive to be able to raise the funding
13 needed to pay off the 402 settlement agreement, yes."

14 Mr. Prosser made similar statements on January 19th.
15 Now, the theory that we've heard from the RTFC seems to be that
16 the debtors' view of intending to pay the 402 million and that
17 the debtors are entitled to pay the 402 million under the
18 settlement agreement rather than the full amount of the
19 judgments is somehow bad faith or a way to avoid paying debts,
20 but in fact, this is a good faith dispute among the parties
21 that will be resolved in the plan context. The debtors believe
22 that they will have the ability to assume that contract, and I
23 fact they will be able to pay the creditors on an unimpaired
24 basis in the plan based on the assumption of that settlement
25 agreement.

1 So, we think that Mr. Prosser's testimony that he is
2 attempting to achieve that through a sale or refinancing shows
3 a good faith effort to meet the debts of the creditors.

4 Contrary to the argument we heard earlier today, and
5 I'm sure the Court will recall, this issue of assumption has
6 not been finally decided. It was decided on a without
7 prejudice basis, and the debtors have leave to re-file at the
8 appropriate time when there is a transaction at hand by which
9 they can assume it or cure or in the context of a plan. And we
10 think that we can do that.

11 The Court also said at the January 9th hearing that
12 assumption is not an issue to be decided now. And we agree
13 with that, that it doesn't make sense to decide that in the
14 abstract, but we believe that at the end of the day we will
15 prevail on that.

16 Now, Your Honor, in response to this testimony at the
17 various hearings with respect to progress that has been made
18 and the ongoing negotiations with the GERS, the RTFC argued on
19 the 19th and mentioned again today that they have some question
20 about whether in fact the GERS deal can actually occur because
21 of Virgin Islands statutes that purportedly limit the nature of
22 investments that can be made. I believe they also raised a
23 question as to whether the GERS had sufficient funding to do
24 this type of transaction and seemed to imply that the Court
25 should just disregard this.

1 The RTFC did obviously correct the description of the
2 statute this morning but was still arguing that the GERS may
3 not have authority to do this transaction.

4 Your Honor, there are several letters in the record
5 from the GERS and from the Virgin Islands government that came
6 in at the December 11th and January 9th hearings in which those
7 entities expressed an interest in pursuing a transaction. The
8 GERS obviously has no motivation to mislead the debtors or this
9 Court and presumably understands the nature of investments it
10 can make under applicable law.

11 As Mr. Greendyke acknowledged earlier, the statute
12 allows for broad types of investments. There are alternative
13 investments listed which would include this type of private
14 equity transaction or almost any other type of transaction, as
15 he described it, and subject to some limits, and I think the
16 limit on those; although, I also am not an expert in Virgin
17 Islands regulatory law, he mentioned a five percent cap.

18 Now, there really is no -- there's no evidence in the
19 record, no one has testified at all about the size of the
20 portfolio. Mr. Greendyke speculated as to what the size of the
21 portfolio is. I don't know. I know it is quite large, but
22 again, presumably the GERS knows better than anyone else what
23 sort of transactions it makes sense to pursue, and the GERS
24 board is fully aware of the limitations on it.

25 I think also we are not focusing on the possibility

1 that the transaction could be structured in a way that would
2 comport with any limits that there may be under Virgin Islands
3 law or in addition that the legislature of the Virgin Islands
4 can amend the limitations of the statute in a particular
5 instance when they're approving a transaction.

6 THE COURT: Well, Ms. Kelley, all sorts of things can
7 happen. The problem is that so far nothing has happened.
8 That's the problem. I mean, you know, if the GERS really wants
9 to do this, I have no doubt that they can figure out a way to
10 do it. But sending in a half of a paragraph letter that says,
11 "G would like to deal with you," is not a commitment, and
12 that's the problem.

13 So, we're still where we were, you know, in July.

14 MS. KELLEY: Well, it isn't a commitment, Your Honor.
15 I think progress is being made. I believe due diligence is
16 going on and that parties are continuing to move things
17 forward.

18 Mr. Prosser testified, first of all, that as a seller
19 he is not concerned with the financial condition of the GERS
20 and he also testified that the investable funds of the GERS
21 will significantly increase as a result of a bond issuance. I
22 note that Mr. Galardi commented earlier about something that
23 the governor may have said. I'm unaware of that, and there's
24 no -- again, no evidence here about that. So, I think that's
25 in the category of speculation at this point, but the debtors

1 in their negotiations are not concerned about an entity the
2 size of the GERS, a government entity managing to have the
3 wherewithal to complete a deal, if it in fact proceeds with it.

4 Mr. Prosser also testified that documents have been
5 segregated in the data room to make review by the government
6 more efficient and that he expected further progress now that
7 the new government is in place and that the debtors are pushing
8 to get consultants hired and to take this forward.

9 So, the debtors are certainly working hard at this.
10 I realize, as the Court has pointed out, the progress has not
11 been as fast as we had hoped, but there is progress being made,
12 and certainly a great deal of effort is being made.

13 Your Honor, that is really on the one hand, the
14 efforts that are being made by the debtors. Now, with respect
15 to the delay issue that the U.S. Trustee discussed, I think we
16 have to look at the other hand as well, that there isn't
17 evidence showing that a trustee could complete the transaction
18 any faster than the debtors are attempting to do.

19 I think this is relevant in this case where delay has
20 been alleged as a cause; although, certainly under the case
21 law, as Your Honor is aware, it may not be relevant in other
22 situations where other causes are alleged, but here I think it
23 goes directly to the heart of the matter. And the Court needs
24 to look at whether the remedy that is being proposed actually
25 fits the need.

1 Mr. Prosser testified on the 19th that in his view,
2 as the party negotiating these transactions, he thought the
3 appointment of a trustee would set back the sale process. Now,
4 obviously it is not in anyone's best interest do to that,
5 because as the Court has acknowledged previously, there needs
6 to be a sale no matter who is pushing that forward.

7 Mr. Prosser also testified that he believed that key
8 employees may leave the operating companies as a result of
9 uncertainty or concerns they might have if a trustee were
10 appointed. The trustee would not necessarily be able to count
11 on Mr. Prosser's assistance, either. All of the parties -- the
12 U.S. Trustee and the creditors have argued today that business
13 would go on as usual and that the trustee appointment did not
14 necessarily mean management would be replaced. Although this
15 may be true in the abstract, this is really disingenuous in
16 this instance.

17 First of all, it seems to fly in the face of the
18 argument that there is distrust of Mr. Prosser on the part of
19 these creditors. And secondly, the creditors have been very
20 vocal about the fact that they want Mr. Prosser out of these
21 companies.

22 So, to now say, "Well, we might be okay with him
23 staying in there running the show if a trustee is in place at
24 the level of the debtors," we believe is not really looking at
25 the reality of the situation. And I think, although I have not

100

1 looked at the transcript of the 19th, I don't think Mr. Prosser
2 was as definitive as was mentioned earlier, that yes, certainly
3 he would stay and help the trustee. I think he was a little
4 bit more equivocal in his answer as to whether he would do
5 that.

6 THE COURT: I think he said he would certainly
7 cooperate with the trustee. He was not sure whether he would
8 recommend to his employees that they stay if the subject came
9 up, but the subject had not been raised with his board, I
10 believe is what he said.

11 MS. KELLEY: Okay, well, I have not looked at the
12 transcript.

13 THE COURT: I haven't either. That's my
14 recollection.

15 MS. KELLEY: I know there was some equivocation in
16 there, so I would have to look at the transcript, too, but I
17 will defer to Your Honor's recollection on that.

18 As a result of all this, Your Honor, we think there
19 are uncertainties connected to the appointment of a trustee,
20 certainly. We think delays -- further delays could be expected
21 in the sale or refinancing efforts, because the debtors are in
22 the midst of trying to push those forward, and particularly if
23 there were a change in management and a trustee had to step in
24 and become familiarized with the business which, of course, Mr.
25 Prosser has been involved in all this time, and also to step in

1 and attempt to pick up the negotiations where they left off.

2 We think this in itself would create delays.

3 So that the trustee remedy, even if we start from the
4 standpoint that there have been delays in this process or it's
5 taken longer than desirable, the trustee would not remedy that
6 situation. And we don't think there's been evidence to show
7 that.

8 THE COURT: I think the problem from the creditors'
9 perspective is that they understand at this point there's going
10 to be delay, because there's no deal on the table. So, there
11 is going to be delay.

12 The only question is who should be at the helm of
13 that delay. And the problem is that Mr. Prosser has, despite
14 the fact that he wants to now back off his statements from the
15 Court, he has in fact told this Court on several occasions that
16 there was likely to be a deal by X date, and it hasn't
17 happened. And it's fine to come in and say it didn't happen
18 because the parameters of that deal changed. And I understand
19 that the parameters of deals change.

20 And as they change, different things happen and
21 different negotiating parties want different things, and so it
22 takes more time. But the reality is that there was a deal by
23 which this debt could have been paid off within the settlement
24 terms. Whether it would have gotten done by the initial due
25 dates or not, I don't know, but it could have been certainly

1 closer than now.

2 That deal changed. It took more time. It
3 transmogrified into something else. That deal didn't work, and
4 it got transmogrified into something else. And that deal is
5 still not done.

6 So, with Mr. Prosser at the helm negotiating three
7 different deals it's still in the course of a delay, and it is
8 a delay, and there is still nothing definitive of record. And
9 the question, I think, from the creditor and the U.S. Trustee's
10 perspective is, is that what's going to continue to happen
11 through -- just to use the plan date -- the end of 2007 when,
12 according to the plan, Mr. Prosser will say, if something
13 hasn't happened in the meantime to get the deal done, "Okay,
14 here are the keys. You can go try it your way now."

15 Well, that concerns me. I am not sure that that is
16 the appropriate exercise of fiduciary duties to say that,
17 "Fine, I'll do my best until a certain date, and then fine,
18 it's all yours."

19 I just -- that really concerns me, and I think it's a
20 concern to the U.S. Trustee and it's a concern to the
21 creditors.

22 Now, the concept again of responsible officer, in
23 quotes, versus trustee, in quotes, you know, I don't have a
24 strong view about that one way or the other what the
25 designation of a person is. I am concerned about the statutory

1 framework in which the U.S. Trustee has raised his argument,
2 because in talking about the concept of a responsible officer,
3 I suppose all along I've kind of been equating it with sort of
4 a restructuring officer, and the U.S. Trustee points out
5 appropriately, I suppose, that that's not that this motion is.
6 The debtor is asking for some kind of quasi-trustee. And the
7 U.S. Trustee's position is that there is no court authority for
8 that.

9 The debtor, obviously -- you haven't argued this yet,
10 but I understand your position is that 105 would give me that
11 authority, especially in combination with some other sections
12 of the code. If I have that authority, that may be a solution.
13 I don't know if I have that authority. So, whether it's that
14 or a trustee, in my view, again, I'm not married to the term,
15 to whatever the person is called, but I am concerned that with
16 Mr. Prosser totally in charge, and he is totally in charge,
17 this is simply not going to get done. And it's not going to
18 get done because, you know, the apples keep getting mixed in
19 with the oranges, and what we need is an apple pie, not an
20 apple and orange pie. And that's the problem.

21 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, I just wanted to
22 clarify before I go on. You were referring to the end date in
23 the plan, and I mean, certainly that isn't the desired outcome
24 and isn't a matter of the debtors just throwing up their hands
25 and saying, "Well, you know, if this doesn't happen here, we'll

1 --" I mean, that isn't the direction we want to go in,
2 obviously.

3 That provision, though, was an attempt to provide
4 some finality which we have heard from the creditors they
5 wanted to see. And so rather than have, you know, successive
6 dates and so forth or just an open-ended time frame that was
7 really an attempt. Perhaps it wasn't the most eloquent
8 attempt, but it was an attempt to provide some sort of finality
9 and give some comfort to the creditors on that point.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Well, in any event, it's not a
11 plan hearing, but that -- but it's just that concept is
12 troubling to me, because if, in fact, at some point Mr. Prosser
13 is going to throw up his hands and say, "Okay, I quit," then
14 frankly, today's a better day to have, "Okay, I quit," than at
15 the end of 2007.

16 So, if it's going to be, "Okay, I quit," today's the
17 day for, "Okay, I quit."

18 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, I think -- Mr. Prosser
19 isn't here today, but I think it would be very unlikely that
20 Mr. Prosser's view would be, "Okay, I quit." He's extremely
21 dedicated to this and I think is very personally involved and
22 does not intend to quit this process.

23 So, again, I think the handing over the keys was
24 really a gesture to show we're willing to look at a date for
25 finality in these cases, and we understand that that's a very

1 real concept.

2 THE COURT: All right, there are two things in the
3 evidence -- that are not in the evidence, I think, that are
4 troubling to me from the corporate debtors' perspective. One
5 is that the -- and I'm sure I raised this. I have not gone
6 back to look at the transcript, but I am relatively sure that I
7 raised this when the settlement proposal came up, and that was
8 that I did not want to hear from the debtors about the fact
9 that if this deal went south that somehow or other it was
10 suddenly going to be some problem and it could be set aside
11 when it was a good faith negotiation by the debtors saying,
12 "Oh, yes, we can get this deal finished by -- within a certain
13 time frame."

14 And here we are apparently now with the debtors
15 attempting to undo the deal that they bargained for because it
16 was in their best interest and the interest of the estate. And
17 I have no evidence as to why at this point in time the
18 management of the corporate debtors who made this deal and who
19 are now attempting to get out of that same deal by filing other
20 litigation should remain in charge of negotiating the same type
21 of arrangement to pay the settlement agreement that they now
22 want to back out of. That's number one.

23 Well, in fact, let's start with that one before I get
24 into the other one, because that was significant enough. So,
25 let's start with that. Is there some evidence that I'm

1 forgetting or not paying attention to that explains to me that
2 piece of this fiduciary responsibility? How is attempting to
3 get out of that transaction at this point exercising the
4 fiduciary duties on behalf of the creditors of this estate?

5 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, in the objections that
6 we filed to claims of Greenlight and RTFC the debtors have
7 raised as an alternative argument the possibility that if, in
8 fact, at some point when it is before the Court the settlement
9 agreement is found not to be assumable the debtors' view would
10 be that having given up substantial value, in other words,
11 having dismissed appeals, having allowed judgments to be
12 entered, if the debtors are then deprived of what we believe
13 was the quid pro quo in that settlement agreement which is that
14 the claim amount would be limited to 402, if that does not
15 occur because it is determined that the contract can not be
16 assumed then the debtors believe that it would be perhaps
17 avoidable as -- well, obviously we haven't presented evidence,
18 we haven't gone down this road yet, but under one of the
19 avenues for avoiding such contracts --

20 THE COURT: But, who benefits from that avoidance?
21 How in the exercise of the fiduciary responsibility to the
22 creditors of the estate, who benefits from that avoidance?

23 MS. KELLEY: Well, the estate would benefit from the
24 avoidance, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Who? Who is the estate? It's these

1 creditors, isn't it?

2 MS. KELLEY: Well, I don't think as a legal matter, I
3 mean they are creditors of the estate. But, the --

4 THE COURT: Are there any others? I took a look at
5 the proofs of claims in these cases and it appears that these
6 are the entities that filed the proofs of claim. So, I don't
7 understand what the avoidance actions are doing with respect to
8 the exercise of the fiduciary duties in this estate. If, in
9 fact, the avoidance actions are to avoid the liens of the
10 creditors in the estate it would file the proofs of claim. So,
11 I'm at a loss as to how on the one hand you're bargaining with
12 the same entities that you conveyed that -- not you -- that the
13 debtors conveyed the liens to. Now, they're saying -- and I
14 thought, and again I haven't looked at the settlement, I
15 thought that the settlement said that the 402 was a discounted
16 payment if paid by a certain date. I may be wrong, but that's
17 just my recollection. And, I'm not making findings, I'm trying
18 to ask a question about fiduciary responsibility. That's all
19 I'm trying to do.

20 So, it said that. It may be broader than that. But,
21 for purposes of this question let's just assume that it's under
22 some terms and conditions it provided the debtor a discount,
23 debtors a discount, to pay this judgment at a reduced amount,
24 so far the debtors have not paid that amount at a reduced
25 amount and now they want to set aside the whole transaction by

1 which they get the benefit of that reduced amount, and to avoid
2 the liens that were at issue in the first place, which I guess
3 means going back to litigation over the same issues that
4 prompted the proofs of claim being filed in the first place.
5 Where are these cases going? What is the theory by which these
6 bankruptcies are now being filed?

7 MS. KELLEY: Your Honor, I'll try to simplify it, I
8 don't know if I'll be successful. But, the settlement
9 agreement, the quid pro quo of the settlement agreement is that
10 the debtors would get this reduced amount. And, the debtors
11 then therefore, you know, abandoned their appeals, which
12 obviously they believed they had meritorious defenses and
13 appeals to these amounts, allowed the judgments to be entered
14 in the judgment amounts. That is the basis on which we are
15 proceeding. We believe that that is the correct amount. We're
16 not trying to step away from the settlement agreement.

17 THE COURT: Okay, I've --

18 MS. KELLEY: We're not trying to undo that as a --

19 THE COURT: Okay, I'm willing to assume for a moment,
20 just for purposes of this discussion I will assume that the 402
21 is the correct amount. I'll just make that assumption for
22 purposes of this discussion. Is what you're trying to say in
23 these avoidance actions that any lien above the 402 should be
24 avoided? Or, is the purpose to say that the entire lien should
25 be avoided?

1 MS. KELLEY: No, Your Honor, we would be trying to
2 say I think that anything above the 402 would deprive the
3 debtors of the benefit of their bargain. So, that if the
4 debtors were not able to assume this contract that is what they
5 bargained for, and Your Honor mentioned the payment amount, the
6 payment date in the settlement agreement, we -- not to argue
7 assumption here today, and I know we're doing that on another
8 day, but we interpret that as just that, a payment date and not
9 a termination provision in the contract. So, we regard that as
10 a curable default. And so, we would -- where we would be going
11 is in the first instance and the plan that we had filed
12 proceeds on this basis, we would want to assume those
13 contracts. We're not trying to get out of those contracts,
14 unwind them, undo them in any way. If at the end of the day we
15 were unable to assume those the debtors have given up
16 substantial value in that exchange. And so, we asserted to
17 reserve our rights in the objection that the debtors would be
18 able to consider going forward with an avoidance action if we
19 were deprived of the benefit of that bargain. That would be
20 really the theory behind the objections.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Okay.

22 MS. KELLEY: Your Honor mentioned a second question
23 that you had.

24 THE COURT: I did. Go ahead with the rest of your
25 argument and it'll come back to me, I was still concentrating

1 on your answer to this one. So, go ahead.

2 MS. KELLEY: All right, Your Honor. Your Honor, I
3 was speaking about delay and our belief that in this case that
4 did not warrant the appointment of a trustee. And, in addition

5 --

6 THE COURT: Oh, that was it. Pardon me. While I
7 think of it I might as well ask because it has to do with
8 delay. Okay. I have no explanation that I can recall, again,
9 and I -- again, I apologize if there is one, but please refresh
10 my recollection if there is, for why the deal changed from a
11 lending transaction which would pay the 402 to a lending plus
12 equity piece, to a lending plus equity piece, to a lending plus
13 equity to a sale, then to a transaction with the Government of
14 the Virgin Islands. As far as I know I don't have anybody's
15 assessment by way of evidence as to any necessity, any reason
16 that I can recall of record for why this deal changed. Is
17 there some evidence of record?

18 MS. KELLEY: There is evidence in the record, Your
19 Honor, in Mr. Michaelis' testimony on December 11th where he
20 traced the evolution of the deal and the changes that were
21 required as a result of expressions of interest that were
22 coming in or comments from the interested parties. I think --

23 THE COURT: I'm talking about from Mr. Prosser's
24 point of view. He was the seller. Why was he changing the
25 deal?

1 MS. KELLEY: Well, Your Honor, I think to say he was
2 changing the deal, I don't think that really reflects the
3 testimony in the record. I think the testimony -- and Mr.
4 Michaelis explained this at some length in the December 11
5 transcript, was that it wasn't that the debtors were behind
6 these changes it was really that the third parties that they
7 were attempting to do the deals with were requiring these
8 various changes in the deals. Your Honor, I think if you
9 wanted a more detailed summary of it, I think maybe Mr. Bartner
10 might be able to explain it in a little bit more depth than
11 that.

12 THE COURT: Okay, well, I'll let you finish your
13 argument, Ms. Kelley, and then I'll ask Mr. Bartner to fill me
14 in on that. Thank you.

15 MS. KELLEY: Okay. Thank you. Your Honor, I'd just
16 like to point out with respect to the appointment of a trustee
17 a few of the cases that have been cited in the papers. We
18 think that this case based on these facts is really very
19 distinguishable from cases like Marvel Comics which were cited
20 and mentioned by the U.S. Trustee, where the cases were, in
21 fact, paralyzed by acrimony and any progress was impossible.
22 In that situation and perhaps others where this paralyzing
23 acrimony arises, there are negotiations going on among
24 different constituencies and the way the parties are lined up,
25 the acrimony sort of brings it to a standstill. Here, really

1 the negotiations in the form of the settlement agreement have
2 really already taken place and the debtors are moving forward
3 diligently to try to fund those obligations. So, we believe
4 that the case can be completed and can proceed despite any
5 acrimony, which, you know, we acknowledge there is obviously
6 friction among the parties, but we think we can move forward
7 despite that. And, again, because we would be -- we would be
8 paying the creditors the full amount of the settlement we
9 believe that it would be unimpaired under the plan. So, we
10 think that that leaves open an obvious route to completing these
11 cases despite this acrimony.

12 We think that -- oh, and I also just wanted to point
13 out that that same case, the Marvel case, does mention that
14 acrimony has to be evaluated on a case by case basis. And,
15 there's no per se rule that where there's acrimony a trustee
16 must be appointed. So, it really is a matter of looking at the
17 true effect of that acrimony and whether the case can go
18 forward in any event.

19 We think there are a couple of more relevant cases
20 that are cited in our papers, and one of which, G-I Holdings at
21 385 F. 3d 313 (3d Cir.) case, a trustee was not appointed in
22 that case even though there was extreme acrimony. And, there
23 the debtor was a holding company, there was a dominant
24 shareholder. But, the Court considered that management had
25 been in place for many years and was familiar with the

1 operations, and there was insufficient evidence to find that a
2 trustee would be helpful. And, we think that this is a similar
3 type of situation and the Court should consider what would
4 happen if a trustee is appointed. We do have a process under
5 way and we think it's clear that the creditors would simply
6 like to take control and remove Mr. Prosser. And, we don't
7 think that that is warranted under the circumstances of this
8 case.

9 In addition, Your Honor, I would just mention again
10 as I did at the last hearing that we think there is potential
11 harm to the debtors because the PSC has objected and has taken
12 the position that the appointment of a trustee would constitute
13 a change of control, and that this is a risk to the Vitelco's
14 franchise. The PSC is on the phone and may have comments along
15 these lines and the various parties have filed papers so I
16 won't delve into that in detail. The Court has all of our
17 respective legal analysis' on this. And, the Court raised some
18 questions about the legal position the other day. We think
19 that whether or not the Court views the underlying position as
20 correct ultimately, there is a substantial risk to the debtors
21 and potentially additional litigation as a result of the PSC's
22 position. And, obviously the regulator has made this very
23 clear and expressed its intent to take action. The debtors are
24 very concerned about this, in particular I would point out that
25 the statute provides that the debtors would have to pay the

1 regulator's legal fees as one of the provisions. And, in
2 addition Vitelco's franchise agreement provides that the
3 franchise may be terminated by the V.I. Government on two
4 year's notice and that in the event of termination the
5 Government shall expropriate the entire business plant and
6 facilities of the company. So, that is quite extreme and a
7 substantial risk that the debtors are very concerned about.
8 So, again, regardless of the ultimate legal position, we think
9 that the risk that the regulator will take some kind of action
10 and the cost and other negative effects of this type of dispute
11 with the PSC is certainly a substantial risk and a substantial
12 problem in the appointment of a trustee.

13 Your Honor, there have been other sort of sweeping
14 allegations made I think really throughout these cases and in
15 connection with this motion, along the lines of gross
16 mismanagement and fraud and dishonesty and those sorts of
17 things. Those are very serious allegations which the creditors
18 continue to repeat in fairly general terms. Once again, we
19 don't think that these allegations are supported by the
20 evidence. There is no evidence to support any allegations that
21 the debtors have been acting in bad faith, that Mr. Prosser is
22 impeding reorganization efforts or self dealing. He has
23 consistently testified that he's willing to sell his entire
24 interest in the subsidiary. There is no evidence and certainly
25 no clear and convincing evidence to show that has been alleged

1 in various of these papers that it is some desire on the part
2 of Mr. Prosser to extract money or future equity positions or
3 anything else that has been an obstacle to the transactions.
4 And, Mr. Michaelis testified that he did not see any type of
5 obstructive behavior like that on Mr. Prosser's part.

6 Most of the evidence with respect to this motion
7 seems to have focused on financial statements and Greenlight
8 has scoured several years of financial statements along with
9 the monthly operating reports, and presumably has come up with
10 anything that's in there to be found, and really the best that
11 they've come up with is it seems a few entries that they have
12 argued are either unclear or in the case of the MORs required
13 some amendment. With respect to the testimony last week in
14 which Mr. Prosser acknowledged that certain items in the MORs
15 that were listed as expense allocations of Emerging and ICC,
16 LLC, actually reflected expenses of the subsidiaries. And
17 those items have now been corrected, and that is reflected in
18 the newly filed amended MORs that we have filed. So, you know,
19 we've followed up and taken action to correct that and we think
20 that the current MORs accurately reflect that.

21 The major other issue that has been focused on seems
22 to be the 156 million dollar note from Shareholder and the
23 treatment of this amount in the financial statements. There --
24 I won't go through all the explanations again because the Court
25 has heard it several times now, Mr. Prosser testified on

1 January 9th and January 19th, and Mr. Lubana also testified on
2 January 9th. And, the testimony shows that this was an
3 accounting mechanism that was used to allocate expenses from
4 new ICC, that were paid by new ICC, to the debtors in order to
5 reflect the fact that these were not truly expenses of new ICC,
6 they were properly attributable to those debtors. And, these
7 included Mr. Prosser's salary and certain legal expenses of the
8 debtors and their subsidiaries. Mr. Prosser testified that he
9 reports any amounts that are allocated personally to him as
10 income on the recent tax returns that he could recall, and that
11 amounts allocated to ICC, LLC appear on a schedule to his tax
12 returns. There was a lot of testimony about things that we
13 think are really irrelevant to this as well on cross
14 examination of Mr. Prosser. For example, the size of his new
15 house and a number of other things. And, those things, while
16 they clutter up the record they have not been linked to
17 anything, there is basically I would classify it as innuendo.
18 Nothing has really been shown here when you look at the
19 evidence that anything is untoward in this accounting
20 calculation. Mr. Prosser testified that the RTFC has been
21 aware since 1998 of this mechanism of the note from
22 Shareholder, and that it was not intended to be paid except
23 through a subsequent merger, and that the RTFC had board
24 members on the board for 14 years. The financials of new ICC
25 were audited by Grant Thornton, by Deloitte & Touche, and now

1 by BDO. And, they have all signed off on the information
2 regarding this contra-equity account.

3 So, against all that explanation and that evidence,
4 again, which shows nothing untoward about this other than a
5 question on the part of, that Greenlight is raising, Greenlight
6 has submitted evidence of a purported expert who basically said
7 that while he would do it a different way, he would account for
8 this on the books in a different way, he was not criticizing
9 what BDO Seidman did. Now, as the Court has heard the witness
10 Mr. Carroll is not currently a practicing accountant, he hasn't
11 conducted an audit in 20 years. He was only a supervisor at
12 Deloitte & Touche many, many years ago. Never himself signed
13 an audit. And, is closely linked to counsel for Greenlight and
14 therefore not absolutely an independent third party. And, he
15 stated that it's his opinion that the disclosures in the
16 financial statements of new ICC would be clearer if certain
17 terms were changed. I believe his report said if the term
18 "Shareholder receivable" would change 'cause that might mislead
19 someone into thinking there was a repayment involved. And, if
20 there had been a specific footnote included saying the amounts
21 were not intended to be repaid. He also admitted there was no
22 net effect on the financial statements. There was no net
23 effect on the equity position that would be reflected there.
24 And, that this is really a matter of his judgment that he
25 thinks they would be more fairly described if this were the

1 case. Now, although there was some testimony as well that the
2 idea of fair disclosure doesn't depend as an auditing matter on
3 who the audience is for the disclosure, for purposes of
4 determining whether any lack of clarity here in the financial
5 statements constitute cause for appointing a trustee, we think
6 it's appropriate for the Court to look at, well, what was done
7 with these financial statements? This was a private company,
8 the only one really looking at the financial statements was the
9 RTFC who obviously was involved in the initial loan
10 transaction, knew about the initial notes and had members on
11 the board, and was aware of this accounting mechanism. And, we
12 think, you know, although that might not be the way that you
13 would present your financials if you were a big public company
14 going out to the capital markets, Mr. Prosser testified that
15 they did not use these financials to raise money from public
16 capital markets or send out to other lenders. So, even if
17 technically something could have been clearer, really the
18 bottom line is it did not effect the bottom line. And, that is
19 really based on the testimony of Mr. Carroll. These facts we
20 believe do not show gross mismanagement or anything of the
21 sort. And, the case law which we've cited in our papers shows
22 that that type of thing needs to be extreme. And, in fact,
23 I'll just -- Sharon Steel was mentioned earlier, and of course
24 in that case you had a situation where a debtor was engaging in
25 systematic siphoning of a debtor's assets, removing property of

1 the estate, executing improper and preferential transfers on
2 the eve of filing. That type of thing, it was clear and
3 convincing, it was itemized, it was shown it was very extreme
4 and there were real issues there, not just a potentially murky
5 accounting entry that one former accountant believes could have
6 been stated more clearly. And, that is really what we have at
7 the end of this day with this evidence.

8 We've cited other cases in our brief going to the
9 point that there is generally some degree of -- well, in this
10 case, Schuster v. Dragon, the Court calls it incompetence or
11 mismanagement. In most businesses that have been forced to
12 seek Chapter 11 protection you're apt to find something that
13 maybe isn't ideal. But, there has to be something more
14 aggravated than simply mismanagement in order to appoint a
15 trustee. And, we think that's a very important point here.
16 Going through every one of these pieces of paper and looking
17 for inconsistencies is apt to turn up something, but we don't
18 think that those things that have been pointed to by the
19 creditors in this case rise to the level that would require the
20 appointment of a trustee. And, again, where things have been
21 pointed out such as errors in the monthly operating reports the
22 debtors are certainly eager to correct them and make them
23 clearer or do whatever this Court thinks is appropriate in
24 those instances.

25 Your Honor, I'd like to just move for just a moment

1 to the discussion of responsible officer. We think that in
2 addition to the trustee not being necessary or appropriate in
3 this case, we think in contrast a responsible officer is
4 appropriate and would be, in fact, very helpful. As I've
5 mentioned there are some risks attendant to the appointment of
6 a trustee and we think that the appointment of a responsible
7 officer would avoid those risks. It would certainly, the PSC
8 has taken the view that it would not object to the appointment
9 of a responsible officer, does not believe it would have the
10 same impact. We also think the responsible officer, given that
11 he or she would be working along with the debtors' management,
12 would be able to assist in completing a transaction without the
13 delay or the, really the starting over that we think would have
14 to happen with the appointment of a trustee.

15 I should comment that the debtors have asked for the
16 appointment of a responsible officer because we think it would
17 provide further transparency and, again, finality, some sense
18 that this will move forward to an ending point. The
19 responsible officer will be able to come to the Court and
20 recommend what should be done and that the responsible
21 officer's opinion on that score will be the final one. This is
22 not a concession on the debtors' part that we would think a
23 trustee should be appointed or that someone needs to step in,
24 we are attempting to facilitate the process and to in essence
25 share control of this process with an independent third party.

1 Mr. Prosser has testified that he has no personal or
2 business relationship with the candidates that we have
3 proposed, and that he's open to discussing any other qualified
4 candidates, and has made efforts to discuss this with
5 Greenlight and RTFC. The responsible officer would have
6 fiduciary duties and, of course, if necessary the debtors could
7 amend their bylaws to give effect to those duties and to
8 appoint the responsible officer. So, we would do whatever
9 needed to be done in order to make that happen.

10 We think that the Court does have authority to do
11 this under Section 105 as well as Section 363, as we have
12 mentioned previously and set forth in our papers. Some Courts
13 have also said that really this is also -- there's also
14 authority under 105 and 1107(a), but either way we think
15 clearly Courts have appointed responsible officers in the past.
16 There is an inherent equitable power that the Court has in
17 order to protect the debtors' ability to reorganize. And, the
18 Court does have the equitable power to make orders regarding
19 the debtors' management, the management of the debtors, in
20 order to facilitate that. And so, we think some combination of
21 those sections is where the power lies to do that. It's
22 clearly an equitable power. And, we would say 105 in addition
23 to those other provisions would give the Court that power.
24 And, as I say, cases have relied on that.

25 Because of the unique circumstances of this case, as

1 we discussed previously, this wouldn't be strictly speaking a
2 payment out of estate assets, and therefore it doesn't fit
3 neatly as the Court has acknowledged within 363. It would be
4 paid, obviously, by new ICC in the ordinary course of its
5 business as it has been paying the professionals. I should
6 note, however, that with respect to the earlier discussion
7 about whether new ICC is making gifts to the debtors or not,
8 although the motion that we previously filed regarding the use
9 of cash and payments is not before the Court today, we do not
10 believe it's a gift. The Court should keep in mind I think
11 that the debtors here guaranteed the debts of new ICC. New ICC
12 was actually the borrower under the loans from the RTFC. And,
13 ICC, LLC and Emerging guaranteed those debts even though
14 obviously they do not have cash assets of their own. I mean,
15 where they have the wherewithal to guarantee anything is really
16 going back to new ICC.

17 In addition, new ICC is getting a substantial benefit
18 by the fact that ICC, LLC and Emerging are in bankruptcy and
19 new ICC is not. I mean, new ICC, the operating company, is
20 continuing to operate, and the RTFC, its lender is pursuing the
21 parent companies for repayment of those debts, and those
22 companies are in bankruptcy. So, new ICC is getting a benefit
23 from the continued pursuit of these cases by the debtor
24 entities. And, it's appropriate for new ICC to be making these
25 payments. That said, you know, any third party could make

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1 payments on behalf of the debtors and that wouldn't be anything
2 -- there would be nothing wrong with that if a third party non-
3 debtor chose to make those payments. But, in this case it's
4 particularly appropriate given the relationship among those
5 parties. And so, we would propose, again, I know that part of
6 this is not before the Court today, but I just wanted to
7 explain to the Court our thinking along those lines.

8 (Pause)

9 MS. KELLEY: Your Honor, I think that really
10 completes my argument at this point and I'd refer the Court,
11 you know, to our papers on some of the specific cases. Unless
12 the Court had any questions?

13 THE COURT: No, that's all. Thank you.

14 MS. KELLEY: Thank you.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Bartner, do you want to just finish
16 that one little piece for me?

17 MR. BARTNER: Be glad to, Your Honor. I do have a
18 recollection of Mr. Michaelis' testimony and I'll try to relate
19 it faithfully. I took him through the direct so I do have
20 recollection. And, he testified that over the course of the
21 summer the attempt was to raise financing from the bank that
22 we've been referring to. And, toward the end of that process
23 as it became closer to the deadline it became clear the bank
24 was going to require another piece, another either equity or
25 subordinated debt piece to come in to support a loan in amounts

1 that they should to pay the 402.

2 As then -- and now we're getting into post-July 31st
3 time frames as well -- as he was tasked -- as his firm was
4 tasked with the responsibility to explore the marketplace to
5 find those funds it became hard to do without some greater
6 commitment to sell the company. It became clear to Mr.
7 Michaelis, I think he said, that a sale to a private equity
8 firm, versus a small slice of equity to come in was a way to
9 go. Mr. Prosser up to that point hadn't been contemplating,
10 perhaps hadn't been willing to sell the company, but was
11 persuaded by his advisors, by the facts as they developed, to
12 sell the company, and I think Mr. Michaelis testified that Mr.
13 Prosser was now at this time frame -- again, we may be into
14 August, September -- willing to sell the company, and explored
15 a full sale. And, that generated interest. As Your Honor
16 knows we presented letters, etcetera. And, it presented
17 interest to the point where one particular entity, as Mr.
18 Michaelis testified, came out in front to, sort of was selected
19 to lead that effort. And, that negotiation advanced and went
20 forward to the point where the Court asked or required that the
21 debtors provide a firm commitment in the November time frame.
22 Leading up to the November 27th hearing. And, Mr. Michaelis, I
23 think again, took the Court through kind of that process, the
24 diligence process, the opening issues, resulting, of course, in
25 our getting up to the five yard line, if you will, but not

1 getting to the point where we had a commitment. And,
2 ironically that resulted in the Government emerging as an
3 interested party when it became clear that a possible foreign
4 buyer was coming in to the Virgin Islands and so on and so
5 forth. And, we have talked about the data room being available
6 from June but the Government, the GERS, or any representative
7 of them had never been in the data room up until the point
8 post-November, I think it was 7th where we had the telephonic
9 hearing where the Government first emerged as an interested
10 party. So, Your Honor, that's my recollection.

11 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

12 MR. BARTNER: And then, one other supplement if I
13 may, Your Honor? Again, we have filed a motion for the
14 appointment of a responsible officer, following up really on
15 comments Your Honor made about the possible appointment of a
16 third party trustee, you didn't care what the name was. In
17 fact, Your Honor threw us out of the courtroom at one point to
18 go talk in a conference room about what that might be. And, I
19 came back and reported on behalf of Greenlight, RTFC, and the
20 debtors that we had -- although subject to client's approval,
21 etcetera -- kind of an outline of what that might be. That
22 didn't get done for whatever reasons, but every element of the
23 motion for the appointment of responsible officer I think is
24 consistent with where the report was. In other words, we're
25 not trying to do anything other than what was agreed to in the

1 conference room in terms of transparency and control. If Your
2 Honor thought that there was a statutory impediment -- and we
3 don't think -- but if Your Honor thought there was a statutory
4 impediment to the responsible officer and so directed we would
5 be happy to recast the motion as hiring a CRO but giving the
6 same transparency and control to the extent we can to the
7 creditors and whatever authority we can divest from Mr. Prosser
8 into this person, and we would do it. So, anyway, we're not
9 married to, again, the exact technique, ie. the appointment of
10 responsible officer under 105. If Your Honor thought a CRO was
11 a better way to go we could certainly do that. Thank you, Your
12 Honor.

13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Why don't we take
14 another five-minute break just to walk around. It's getting a
15 little bit warm and stuffy and probably it would be a good
16 idea, and then I'll hear from you, Mr. Lichtenstein. Okay.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. LICHENSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 (Recess)

20 THE COURT: Mr. Lichenstein.

21 MR. LICHENSTEIN: Your Honor, being a Shakespeare fan
22 I'm going to follow the Brevity of the Soul of Wit theory
23 today. And, I think Your Honor has heard obviously from lots
24 of people and what I'd like to try and do is address some of
25 the comments, a couple of the comments that the Court made, and

1 then just focus my comments really very briefly because I think
2 the Court has really heard all the evidence and everything
3 there is to say.

4 One comment the Court discussed was this notion as to
5 whether Mr. Prosser in his plan was suggesting I quit and I'm
6 not going to be here. And, I wanted to clarify, I think Ms.
7 Kelley has taken care of both of these but I just wanted to
8 reiterate, that much like Mr. Bartner talking about the
9 responsible officer motion being a reaction to sitting with the
10 other side and trying to figure out parameters, is really a
11 response to their concern that they wanted to have a drop dead
12 date or they wanted to have finality. It wasn't in any way
13 meant to me, "I'm out of here, I'm not going to do it anymore",
14 so I think the Court should appreciate that.

15 The same is true with respect to the settlement
16 agreement, Your Honor. In no way are we trying to get out of
17 the settlement agreement. Obviously we have set forth in every
18 pleading and every time we argue that we think that that number
19 is a number that should be achieved and should be approved by
20 the Court. And, as Ms. Kelley pointed out that was an
21 alternative argument. I do recall, Your Honor, and my first
22 involvement in this case that when we talked about assuming a
23 settlement agreement Your Honor actually made a comment about,
24 "Not so fast, I'm the Judge, there may be fraudulent
25 conveyances out there." So, I think that's really where that

1 came from. And, again, it's not any attempt to try to get out
2 of those obligations.

3 Your Honor, this is really -- what we're here for
4 today is really very simple as the Court knows. It's an issue
5 about control. And, the Court's already made sort of its
6 ruling in the sense that the Court's going to appoint somebody.
7 So, the only issue that we need to talk about is, is it a
8 trustee or is it a responsible officer or chief restructuring
9 officer? And, Your Honor, I think what I'd like to do briefly
10 is point out why the debtors believe and why Mr. Prosser
11 believes there would be down sides, in addition to what Ms.
12 Kelley's already gone through with respect to appointing United
13 States -- a Chapter 11 Trustee. Your Honor, it would result in
14 potentially certainly Mr. Prosser leaving and potentially the
15 management leaving. And, Your Honor has heard enough and has
16 seen enough in this court to know that it's really subterfuge
17 for the creditors sitting on that side of the table to suggest
18 that they would now be perfectly okay and that the Chapter 11
19 Trustee would retain Mr. Prosser. Though there has been
20 acrimony they've been trying to get rid of him, they want him
21 to get out of control, and, Your Honor, the reality of it is
22 that if a Chapter 11 Trustee was appointed it is highly likely
23 that Mr. Prosser would not be involved in the process, and he
24 testified that key management might leave, too. And, we think
25 that's a severe down side. Now, we don't know that that would

1 happen, Your Honor, but the undisputed testimony before the
2 Court -- and I think the Court should take that into
3 consideration -- that's a potential dire consequence.

4 If a Chapter 11 Trustee is appointed and Mr.
5 Prosser's gone you now have somebody who needs to get up to
6 speed who knows potentially nothing about the Virgin Islands
7 because these creditors have argued that it doesn't necessarily
8 have to be anybody who knows anything about telecommunications
9 or the Virgin Islands. And, that learning curve, Your Honor, I
10 think would just further the Court's concern to the extent
11 there has been a lack of progress that's sufficiently quick.
12 Which, everybody would like to do. So, Your Honor, I would
13 submit that appointing a Chapter 11 Trustee is just going to
14 delay it even further.

15 Your Honor, if this Court were to appoint a chief
16 restructuring officer as Ms. Kelley suggested, or a chief
17 restructuring officer or a responsible officer and Mr. Prosser
18 believes as to the corporate debtors that the Court does have
19 that authority under 105 and under the cases that have been
20 cited. Then, Your Honor, that would provide transparency, the
21 creditor said that they don't want Mr. Prosser to be making
22 ultimate decision, he will be not in that position anymore.
23 This responsible officer would make that ultimate decision with
24 respect to the sale of the companies, but at the same time
25 would have the benefit of Mr. Prosser's knowledge. And, let's

1 keep in mind, Your Honor, Mr. Prosser testified that he started
2 these companies 20 or 30 years ago, he's got lots of contacts
3 in the Virgin Islands, and clearly that would expedite the
4 process.

5 Your Honor, as this Court knows it is a high burden,
6 clear and convincing evidence, that the United States Trustee
7 who filed this motion and the two creditors who joined in would
8 have to demonstrate to this Court and we would submit
9 respectfully, Your Honor, they have not met that burden. And,
10 we would ask this Court not to throw out the baby with the bath
11 water, but rather in allowing these cases to go forward have
12 some controls over Mr. Prosser in the form of a responsible
13 officer or a chief restructuring officer, and that would allow
14 the company to move forward. Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: In the Virgin Islands, anyone wish to add
16 any comments?

17 MS. RICH: Yes, Your Honor. Carol Rich on behalf of
18 the corporate debtors. And, I promise also to be brief. But,
19 there are just two areas that I think it might be helpful if I
20 add some (indiscernible). Of course, from the point of view of
21 issue had been raised or suggested by Greenlight and the RTFC
22 regarding fraudulent conveyances and issues like that. I
23 understand that the Court already indicated that that is not
24 your main concern but I think it's important to point out, as
25 Ms. Kelley already did, that the structure of what's happening

1 here really makes that argument one that's really just a red
2 herring here, Your Honor. As the Court knows, the settlement
3 agreement was an agreement between the RTFC Greenlight and a
4 group identified therein as the Prosser Parties, which included
5 Mr. Prosser, the corporate debtors, and new ICC, and old ICC,
6 which is something you haven't heard for awhile but that is the
7 former dissolved ICC. And, the structure of that agreement had
8 always been that all of the Prosser parties, including new ICC,
9 would be using joint efforts in order to raise the 402 and pay
10 it to RTFC and Greenlight in exchange for complete satisfaction
11 of all of their claims and an end to years and years of
12 contentious litigation.

13 All of the efforts that have been going on since that
14 time, for which money has been upstreamed from new ICC -- and
15 I'm not getting into right now what you call it -- but, all of
16 those efforts have been towards achieving that goal. The
17 professionals involved in this case have filed fee applications
18 detailing the time that they've spent and no one has objected
19 to that time or indicated that the efforts were inappropriate,
20 that the time was not well spent, or that the efforts were not
21 being made in good faith. And so, for that reason the idea
22 that there's some sort of fraudulent conveyance problem here is
23 really a complete red herring because the Virgin Islands
24 Fraudulent Conveyance Act, which is drawn from the Uniform Law,
25 indicates not just that you look at whether the entity, new

1 ICC, making the conveyance may or may not be insolvent, but
2 whether or not more importantly fair consideration was received
3 for the conveyances. And, fair consideration, which is defined
4 in 28 Virgin Islands Code, Section 203(a) includes fair
5 consideration is given when in exchange for such property or
6 obligation as a fair equivalent therefore and in good faith
7 property is conveyed or an antecedent debt is satisfied. The
8 efforts that have been made, the funds that have been
9 upstreamed are a good faith attempt to satisfy a debt pursuant
10 to the settlement agreement. And, that alone indicates that
11 the entire fraudulent conveyance argument will fall of its own
12 weight. And so, that need not concern the Court.

13 The funding is not the issue. RTFC suggested that
14 one of the reasons the Court should pick a trustee over a
15 responsible officer is that RTFC would agree to fund the
16 trustee but not a responsible officer. And, that is why, Your
17 Honor, I have raised -- I mentioned the fraudulent conveyance
18 issue because I think it is important that this case not be
19 governed by what RTFC or the creditors indicate they're willing
20 to fund. That is not the necessary element for making this
21 decision. The funding motions are not yet before the Court.
22 They have been filed as Your Honor requested and I believe are
23 at this point scheduled for hearing on March 7th. But, Your
24 Honor, the funding for this is available through the new ICC
25 and there is an obvious and substantial benefit to new ICC

1 through being involved in this process. And, the idea that new
2 ICC would not look to upstream the money if we were able to
3 come to a conclusion of the transaction is also a red herring.
4 The agreement, to which RTFC and Greenlight are parties,
5 contemplates exactly that occurring and the only parties which
6 would object to that upstreaming are parties to the agreement.
7 And so, if the agreement can be assumed then those issues by
8 definition would no longer be issues.

9 Your Honor, the other thing that I wanted to add to
10 this that I think might be important is in response to the
11 Court's second question regarding how the deal changed and why
12 the deal changed. As someone who was involved in the
13 negotiations from the beginning that resulted in the settlement
14 agreement, and in the negotiations in preparation of the
15 definitive documentation for that agreement which was not
16 completed until June 9th of 2006 I can tell the Court that what
17 the transaction that was originally contemplated was, and in
18 fact the paperwork that was drawn up for that transaction, was
19 essentially that a third party lender would be identified that
20 would step into the shoes of the RTFC and, in fact,
21 documentation contemplating such a transaction was prepared.
22 With that kind of transaction, if a lender could be found who
23 would loan 402 million in order to step into the shoes of the
24 RTFC, then none of the regulatory approvals would be required
25 and the senior liens that have always been ahead of the RTFC of

1 the RUS and preferred shareholders would have simply been left
2 undisturbed.

3 MR. GERBER: Your Honor, may I interrupt just a
4 moment to -- Ms. Carol Rich seems to be testifying now about
5 the intent and meaning of an agreement that is -- she's not in
6 a position to testify as to evidence. She's giving something
7 beyond argument. I don't know if the Court wants but if she's
8 going to do this it's going to require us to stand up and say
9 why she's wrong and why the agreement says what it says. And,
10 I just don't think that that's proper argument.

11 THE COURT: Yes. If there's some evidence of record
12 that tells me, that's fine, I'm happy to hear the argument.
13 But, what I was really looking for was where on the record
14 there was some evidence as to why the debtors had undergone
15 this transformation.

16 MR. GERBER: Okay. I don't think any of what Ms.
17 Rich is arguing about now is in the record.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Rich, I --

19 MS. RICH: Your Honor, I would beg -- I'm sorry, Your
20 Honor, go ahead.

21 THE COURT: Go ahead.

22 MS. RICH: I would beg to differ, Your Honor. I
23 think it is in the record because the Court held a series of
24 hearings at which parties provided the Court with updates and
25 statements about what was happening with the financing, and,

1 Your Honor, all I was going to say is that to add to what Mr.
2 Bartner was saying, is that shortly after the payment
3 documentation was completed -- and this is in the record, Your
4 Honor, in the form of the variety of different pleadings that
5 have been filed -- there was a lawsuit filed by the preferred
6 shareholders, that's no secret, and they became a part of this
7 case. And, the transaction changed because at that point it
8 became clear that the only way to fund was for somebody to also
9 be able to satisfy the RUS and the preferred shareholders.
10 And, I think, Your Honor, all I was doing was reminding the
11 Court that that is what had happened which changed the
12 transaction in terms of the amount that had to be raised and
13 the types of approvals that were necessary.

14 MR. GERBER: Okay.

15 MS. RICH: And, my only point, Your Honor, was that
16 is something that has been reported numerous times to the
17 Court, I don't think any of this is even in dispute in terms of
18 the fact that these things occurred, and that that simply made
19 the transaction more complicated. And, it wasn't something the
20 debtors chose or wanted, it's what happened. And, that was my
21 only point, Your Honor. And, I do believe that there is
22 information in the record in terms of pleadings that have been
23 filed and declarations that have been filed that set forth that
24 history.

25 MR. GERBER: Your Honor, I'll come back later but not

1 only is that factually incorrect but it directly contradicts
2 debtors' counsel's representations to this Court in early July
3 and on July 26th, long after the preferred shareholder lawsuit
4 was filed.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Rich, what I'm going to do,
6 Mr. Bartner was summarizing the witness' testimony for me, Mr.
7 Michaelis, if there is actually testimony that supports that
8 view then, you know, I will take it under advisement. If there
9 is no testimony I will reread the December 11th transcript. If
10 it is not the December 11th transcript I'm not going to assume
11 that information that's in the pleadings is accurate.
12 Pleadings are pleadings. I've had four or five day's worth of
13 trial over this now, I'm going to accept the evidence that's of
14 record not the pleadings. So, although I will accept, you
15 know, historical recitation for purposes of information, I'm
16 not going to accept it by way of making findings of fact, I'm
17 going to rely on the evidence for that purpose. So, if you can
18 show me a transcript cite I'll be happy to look at it,
19 otherwise I'll just rely on the transcript. Okay.

20 MS. RICH: That's fine, Your Honor, I was just trying
21 to assist in responding to the Court's question about sort of
22 the background of this from the perspective of somebody that
23 had been involved from the earlier days. But, Your Honor, my
24 main point was simply that the decision on whether to appoint a
25 trustee or responsible officer I believe is not governed by how

1 it is funded. That issue will be addressed by the funding
2 motions later, but as I said before the arguments which are not
3 presently before the Court but which have been suggested that
4 the funding by new ICC is somehow illegal or a fraudulent
5 conveyance, I think, Your Honor, will prove to be not
6 supportable and that that is not what should drive the Court
7 today.

8 In fact, the only thing I wanted to add to that, Your
9 Honor, is Your Honor already indicated that the Court
10 understands that if the GERS decides to do this deal then the
11 GERS probably can find a way to do this deal, the real issue is
12 whether they're going to do so and how that moves forward.
13 And, I would simply support what has already been said that a
14 responsible officer drawn from someone who is familiar with the
15 players here would be far more useful to making that progress
16 move along quickly than imposing a Chapter 11 trustee as has
17 been suggested. And, to the extent that it was pointed out
18 that we have not heard testimony from anyone from the
19 Government so far, I would note that the hearings so far have
20 been taking place in locations other than the Virgin Islands
21 and as a practical matter having someone from the Governor's
22 Officer or the GERS appear in Pittsburgh may have been
23 something that -- was something that could be arranged or would
24 have been appropriate at this time. Of course, there is a
25 hearing that is going to take place in the Virgin Islands in

1 February at which such information could probably be brought
2 forward if that would be helpful to the Court.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Actually, the hearings are taking
4 place in the Virgin Islands. My physical presence isn't there
5 but these hearings are centered in the Virgin Islands, and
6 frankly, I think with the use of the video conference
7 facilities they seem to be working fine. I prefer to have
8 witnesses where I am so that I can actually see the witnesses
9 on the stand. To the extent that we're going to have make some
10 accommodation because of weather and fire drills and whatever
11 else is going to come up, we're going to have to figure out a
12 process by which to make those accommodations.

13 I will attempt in all instances to do evidentiary
14 hearings in the Virgin Islands when I can do that, but you know
15 it simply may not always be possible. So, to the extent that
16 we need to use the video facilities for that purpose that
17 should not preclude anybody from having a witness available in
18 the Virgin Islands. I can see you quite clearly, Ms. Rich, and
19 Mr. Dodson as well. So, to the extent that there is a need to
20 have a witness in the Virgin Islands the use of the video
21 conference will, you know, assist when I can't be there for
22 whatever reason, and we'll simply make that accommodation.

23 MS. RICH: Thank you, Your Honor. We appreciate
24 that.

25 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Moorehead, do you -- I'm

1 sorry, Mr. Dodson, why don't I speak to you first. Do you have
2 any comments that you wish to make, sir?

3 MR. DODSON: No, Your Honor, thank you.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Moorehead, does the PSC have
5 anything it wants to argue?

6 MR. MOOREHEAD: Your Honor, we certainly do.

7 THE COURT: Go ahead, sir.

8 MR. MOOREHEAD: Everyone hear me fine?

9 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

10 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you, Your Honor. Well, first
11 I'd like to say that I hope everyone -- hope no one is
12 confusing the PSC silence for ignorance. We've been quiet for
13 a long time but we've been monitoring these proceedings quite
14 carefully because this is an extremely important matter which
15 deals with a regulated utility in the Virgin Islands which is
16 not even a party to this action. Having said that I will try
17 and keep my comments to areas that have not been discussed
18 before because there are several material issues which have not
19 been discussed.

20 Section 43(a) of the Virgin Islands Code which speaks
21 to indirect changes of control. With all the briefs that have
22 been submitted to the Court, Your Honor, primarily with the
23 RTFC and Greenlight's briefs which cites to cases from
24 California, Florida, Kentucky, and New Jersey, none of those
25 statutes interpret Virgin Islands Code. More specifically,

1 none of those statutes deals with indirect changes of controls.
2 That term, Your Honor, is a material term to these proceedings
3 and it's also a term which has not been defined. It's a term
4 which is not defined anywhere in the Virgin Islands Code.
5 Therefore, it is up to the Public Services Commission which is
6 a regulatory body to interpret what that statute means. The
7 PSC has never had an opportunity to do that. And, when it does
8 that and whenever time that is done this Court and all the
9 parties should give deference to the PSCs in how they interpret
10 that statute. I believe that that deference, that term is
11 called Chevron deference after a Supreme Court case dealing
12 with Chevron. I think that is a very, very important term to
13 make. Everyone's throwing that term around, this is an
14 indirect change of control, that is not yet, no one can define
15 it. Up to the PSC to define it.

16 Secondly, Your Honor, --

17 THE COURT: Mr. Moorehead?

18 MR. MOOREHEAD: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry, you faded out for a
20 minute. Sorry.

21 MR. MOOREHEAD: I'm still hear, I'm trying to speak
22 directly into the speaker phone. Secondly, Your Honor, it's
23 apparent from Section 43(a) that the legislature envisioned the
24 possibility that a transfer of control may be achieved through
25 some other mechanism other than the conventional willing buyer

1 or willing seller agreement. And, some effort may be made to
2 circumvent the PSC's role in reviewing such a transaction.
3 That's what lawyers do. And, that's why we have an indirect
4 change of control in our statute. That's my guess. But, then
5 again I don't know, it's not for me to determine what it is,
6 and it's not for the PSC to determine what that term means.
7 And, that's why we've been urging the parties to settle.
8 Urging this Court to refrain from appointing a trustee and not
9 move so fast, Your Honor. We're in uncharted waters.

10 THE COURT: Well, I can assure you of one thing, Mr.
11 Moorehead, this Court has absolutely no intent of attempting to
12 circumvent the PSC's oversight and monitoring of its public
13 utility function. In fact, this Court would assume that it's
14 obligation is to assist the PSC in its oversight and monitoring
15 functions and the problem that I'm facing in this case is I'm
16 not convinced at this point in time that the PSC is able to
17 conduct those monitoring functions because I don't know that I
18 have anybody who is on behalf of these estates able to keep the
19 PSC in the loop when the parties seem in some respects, and I
20 don't mean this -- I'm not making findings, I'm just attempting
21 to articulate a problem at the moment. The parties seem at
22 some points to get loggerheads over some matters. And,
23 sometimes those loggerheads I think are not helpful to the PSC
24 in ascertaining information. And, the difficulty I have, of
25 course, is that these debtors are, in fact, not the utilities

1 that the PSC monitors, they're several levels different from
2 those utilities. So, the obligations of this Court to the
3 creditors of this estate are a little different from the PSC's
4 regulatory obligations with respect to its utilities, but I can
5 not in any way disagree that at some point the rulings of this
6 Court and the actions of the PSC are going to have to be
7 copasetic and I take it my obligation to make sure that to the
8 extent that there is any way that those bodies can cooperate
9 that cooperation is achieved. So, I don't in any manner see
10 that whatever entity is appointed, a responsible officer, a
11 CRO, a trustee, that in any way there would be a lack of effort
12 on behalf of that entity to do anything other than cooperate to
13 the fullest extent with the PSC. And, I also think it would
14 behoove the PSC to be in touch with the United States Trustee's
15 Office if it's a trustee that's appointed, in talking to the
16 U.S. Trustee's Office about who that entity ought to be that
17 would satisfy the PSC's concerns, and if it's somebody that the
18 debtors are going to hire to do the same thing. Because I
19 think the cooperation level for whoever this person and the
20 person's professionals will be with the PSC will certainly help
21 to expedite this process. So, I don't know whether that is
22 some, you know, assurance level for you and your client but
23 certainly I do not see this Court is interfering with the PSC's
24 monitoring function. If anything, I would think that the Court
25 would in all effort make every effort to assist in that

1 monitoring function.

2 MR. MOOREHEAD: Well, we appreciate that, Your Honor.
3 The PSC certainly respects the Court's authority. We just feel
4 that before the Court appoints a trustee -- because once a
5 trustee gets appointed it's our position that an indirect
6 change of control of Vitelco occurs. And, before the Court
7 appoints that trustee we think it would be more appropriate for
8 a representative from the Court and a representative from the
9 PSC to get together and discuss ground rules or protocol and
10 how to go about that. We're not trying to infringe on the
11 Court's authority. We --

12 THE COURT: Mr. Moorehead, I'm sorry, I have to ask
13 you to pick up your headset because you keep fading out and I
14 get about three words and then I lose you.

15 MR. MOOREHEAD: Very well, Your Honor. Very well.
16 It's when I turn my head, I was speaking directly into the
17 monitor on the speaker phone. I have the receiver now. I
18 apologize to everyone.

19 THE COURT: Okay. And, you were saying that you
20 think that there should be some protocol. The problem I have
21 with the protocol with respect to the appointment of the
22 trustee is that that's not within the Court's prerogative. By
23 statute the United States Trustee's Office is, in fact, the
24 entity that negotiates the appointment of that trustee.
25 They're the representative of the United States Department of

1 Justice and they contact all of the parties in interest in the
2 case and do exactly what you're suggesting, they get everyone
3 -- they don't necessarily get everyone together in a room but
4 they contact everyone and make sure that everyone's interests
5 are fairly heard and I'm sure that one of the interests that
6 they would be most concerned with would be that of the PSC.

7 With respect to the legal argument, Mr. Moorehead, I
8 think my concern is that the only way that I can understand the
9 PSC's arguments to say that the appointment of a Chapter 11
10 Trustee in these cases would somehow effectuate a change in
11 control is because it would essentially put a different entity
12 at the helm of the debtors' estates. But, the reality is in
13 the Third Circuit, by virtue of the West Electronics case, that
14 already happened when the debtors filed bankruptcy because the
15 debtors-in-possession are, in fact, a different entity from the
16 debtors. So, the fact is that if there was a change in control
17 it happened already when the debtors filed bankruptcy and
18 appointing a trustee isn't going to make any further change.
19 So, I would commend that case to you for perhaps your reading
20 to see whether that may help satisfy your client that there is
21 no further indirect change in control over the operating entity
22 by virtue of the appointment of a trustee than there was by
23 virtue of the filing of the case.

24 MR. MOOREHEAD: Very well. We take exception to
25 that, but very well, Your Honor. Additionally, Your Honor, the

1 collateralization and the right to foreclose, in our opinion,
2 is limited to physical assets that are secured by the loans.
3 And, the operating licenses are not part of any loan agreement
4 between the parties. The commission can not and has not
5 permitted operating licenses and franchises to be secured by
6 any loan agreement and to be transferred without its authority.

7 THE COURT: And, I have no doubt, no dispute about
8 that in this case. There is not even a franchise that's an
9 asset of this estate. So, there is no dispute and --

10 MR. MOOREHEAD: I just wanted --

11 THE COURT: -- no assertion by this Court of
12 jurisdiction over the franchise agreement or the licenses. So,
13 I don't think we're in disagreement there.

14 MR. MOOREHEAD: Very well. Very well. I just wanted
15 to put that in the record and to make that clear, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 MR. MOOREHEAD: Our main concern, Your Honor, and I
18 think it's obvious that we are concerned that whoever's
19 appointed the trustee since they're going to be dealing with a
20 public utility that we're concerned that they have the
21 managerial competence, technical ability and the financial
22 wherewithal, those things are very, very important because
23 we're dealing with a public utility, not just a regular
24 corporation, Your Honor. And, while I don't want to address
25 things that are not in evidence, for instance, whoever's going

1 to be appointed the trustee has to know the effect heavy
2 rainstorms have on Estate A with Estate B. The trustee's not
3 going to have that but the people who are currently managing
4 the utility, they know that. That might not be a good example
5 but I think you get my point, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: I do get your point.

7 MR. MOOREHEAD: Those concerns are --

8 THE COURT: And, I think that's a point that the
9 United States Trustee or the debtor, whoever it is who's going
10 to have the control over this person, should have some heart to
11 heart talk with your enterprise about, Mr. Moorehead, because,
12 you know, that's a point well taken that the debtors do need to
13 have an operational management staff in place that is very
14 familiar with what a telecommunications company that's
15 operating this type of enterprise needs. And, that is in my
16 view one reason why neither a responsible officer nor a trustee
17 is going to come in and attempt to make wholesale changes of
18 any sort because it just, you know, that would be shooting
19 yourself in the foot. And, no one wants these cases not to
20 succeed, no one wants the people in the Virgin Islands not to
21 have public utility service. The whole purpose is to make sure
22 that they do have public utility service and that it is in
23 accord with the PSC's regulatory authority.

24 So, whatever assurances you need along those lines
25 I'm sure all parties will work to attempt to achieve.

1 MR. MOOREHEAD: Well, it's our hope that the parties
2 will seek authority from the PSC rather than just be providing
3 us with notice as to what they intend to do. We think there's
4 a distinct difference and our statute is clear as to when you
5 need authority and when you don't. And, the parties seem to be
6 taking the position of, "We will notify the PSC", as opposed to
7 seeking authority which the Code clearly requires. I think --

8 THE COURT: Well, Mr. Moorehead, I'm sorry, for what
9 action? You mean if they actually contemplate a sale or
10 something?

11 MR. MOOREHEAD: A change, any indirect change of
12 control, Your Honor. Any indirect change of control.

13 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I think we have a
14 disagreement on the law, perhaps, you and I with respect to
15 whether or not the appointment of another person is going to
16 represent a change in control. But, so to the extent that you
17 want consulted, your client wants consulted, I assure you that
18 by order of this Court either the United States Trustee or the
19 debtor, whoever it is who is going to effectuate this new
20 person coming in to assist in the negotiations to refinance or
21 to entertain some sale, will be directed to consult with you
22 and your client with respect to whoever that person's going to
23 be. You will have a consultive function.

24 MR. MOOREHEAD: Will that be a pre-condition, Your
25 Honor?

1 THE COURT: Oh, it will definitely be a pre-
2 condition, it is hereby a pre-condition.

3 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you.

4 THE COURT: But, it will not -- you do not have final
5 say so, I can not say that.

6 MR. MOOREHEAD: I understand.

7 THE COURT: But, you will have a consultive function.

8 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you, Your Honor. That's all I
9 have to say.

10 THE COURT: Okay. With respect to, you know, what
11 happens ultimately if there is a sale or a refinance negotiated
12 you clearly have monitoring functions, they've been laid out
13 not only in the statute but by certain cases that have gone up
14 at least as far as the Third Circuit and I'm sure all parties
15 will work to make sure that the functions are carried out in
16 that respect, Mr. Moorehead.

17 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: But, we're not nearly that far along yet.

19 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Why don't I try to go around the
21 table one more -- oh, Mr. Moorehead, I'm sorry, is there
22 anything further? I really didn't want to cut your argument.

23 MR. MOOREHEAD: No, that's fine. We take no position
24 with the responsible officer because in our position that does
25 not appear to reach the point of indirect change of control as

1 a trustee would. And so, we take no position with regard to
2 that, and that's our argument, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

4 MR. MOOREHEAD: You're welcome.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Then why don't I go around the
6 room one more time to see if anybody has any closing comments
7 to make. So, Mr. Gebhardt, I guess I'll start with you. We'll
8 do it in the order in which we went before.

9 MR. GEBHARDT: Just very briefly, Your Honor. The
10 consideration of the appointment of a responsible officer, as
11 we have said, is an extremely important issue to the United
12 States Trustee. We don't think there's authority under Section
13 105 for the Court to appoint a responsible officer. We think
14 we have shown by the evidence that this case would benefit from
15 the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee because cause exists
16 and because it would benefit creditors and parties in interest
17 in this case. Not only the United States Trustee or just the
18 appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee, but the creditors and the
19 preferred shareholders want the appointment of a Chapter 11
20 trustee, representing well over 90 percent of the indebtedness
21 in this case.

22 And, I can assure the Court and Mr. Moorehead that
23 the United States Trust will take her appointment very
24 seriously in the event the Court orders the appointment of a
25 Chapter 11 trustee. As Your Honor knows, the Court requires

1 the United States Trustee to consult with parties in interest
2 and we will certainly do that. For these reasons --

3 THE COURT: Including with the PSC?

4 MR. GEBHARDT: Yes, Your Honor. Including the Public
5 Service Commission. And, for these reasons, Your Honor, we
6 urge the Court to grant the United States Trustee's motion and
7 order the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee.

8 THE COURT: Okay, well, does the U.S. Trustee have a
9 position with respect to whether or not this effectuates some
10 indirect change in control?

11 MR. GEBHARDT: Your Honor, we have not briefed that
12 issue. Thank you.

13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Mr. Greendyke.

14 MR. GREENDYKE: Thank you, Judge. Much has been said
15 since the last time I stood here and I know I don't want to
16 reargue every single thing that I disagree with. I disagree
17 with a lot of the comments and at some length I feel like,
18 almost like we're watching different cases transpire in front
19 of us. One of the primary arguments Ms. Kelley made was that
20 there's no cause in the record with regard to appointing a
21 trustee. And, both Mr. Lichenstein and Ms. Kelley said, you
22 know, it's a heavy burden, it's an extreme burden on our part
23 to show it. And, I beg to differ. I think the Court has
24 immense discretion in making factual determinations, there
25 doesn't need to be a smoking gun, there doesn't need to be a

1 confession of some type of impropriety. Does that ever happen?
2 Sure, that happens. You've seen it, I've seen it, we've all
3 seen it in various cases. But, in some instances I think the
4 charge of the Court is to do what's best for the estate and
5 best for the creditors. I think in your heart you know that
6 some change must occur because of what's already transpired and
7 a lack of progress and just really position of the parties and
8 the complexity of the matters with which we're dealing.

9 This is not a normal Chapter 11. This is not a
10 normal Chapter 11 where the case gets filed by Shearman &
11 Sterling or Fulbright & Jaworski, or Skadden Arps, and you have
12 a committee that's well represented and there's sort of a
13 checks and balances as the case progresses with how to run the
14 data room and who to market it to, and the committee's not
15 bringing prospective buyers in. The case has run completely
16 differently from the very start. It's been contentious from
17 the start. Everything's been sealed from the start. The last
18 time we were here the argument Mr. Shelley made was, "This is a
19 private company and we want to keep our records private because
20 that's the way it's always been." This has been a very
21 different case from the large cases you've dealt with that
22 we've all dealt with in our careers in the past, and for that
23 reason the extraordinary action of appointing a trustee is what
24 I think is necessary, what RTFC argues is necessary in order to
25 move the ball down the road.

1 The Court brought up in Ms. Kelley's arguments the
2 question about the claim objection and meeting yourself coming
3 in the door, if you will. The conflict presented by the claim
4 objection. The claim objection that's been filed against the
5 RTFC is kind of like the will with the interim clause stuck in
6 it, you either take what I leave you or you get nothing,
7 because that's the way it's going to work. And, that -- pretty
8 much what the claim objection has done. And, I find it as
9 incredible as the Court does that they can predicate the entire
10 case on the assumption of the terms and conditions and forcing
11 a discount option on us, and if that doesn't work then they're
12 going to undo the whole deal. The Court's right, they never
13 answered your question. What happens? Who's the beneficiary
14 of a 547 or 548 action? We are. And, guess what? We get life
15 breathed back into our entire claim. There's nothing wrong
16 with our judgment. Our judgment is for a debt amount that the
17 debtors stipulated to, 525 million dollars. There's nothing
18 wrong with Greenlight's judgment, it's 130 million dollars
19 based upon the judgment of the Chancery Court in Delaware.
20 That's not going to change. We are the beneficiaries of this
21 purported 547/ 548 action because we're the biggest creditors
22 in the case. We're substantially all the creditors in the
23 case. So, what we say needs to be listened to with regard to
24 Ms. Rich's fraudulent transfer arguments or anything else.
25 This is where it's all about.

1 They continue to confuse and throw up more issues
2 when we've tried to simplify. What's simple is it's really a
3 very small, a three-party dispute, with a complex regulatory
4 issue that we'll address a little bit more fully later on.
5 But, what we need to do is to continue to simplify and not make
6 more difficult the legal issues that we're all confronted with.
7 The plan does the same thing. The plan purports to discharge
8 all of our liens. They want to pay us 402 million dollars and
9 they want to discharge everything which we think is not what
10 the law allows for. Again, that's an indication as I argued
11 earlier of a conflict in interest that Prosser has, Mr. Prosser
12 has and the debtors have in making these proposals to you.

13 One thing that was mentioned that I need to clarify,
14 the last time somebody from the debtors' side spoke and I
15 didn't clarify or correct what they said it came back to haunt
16 me. They said that Emerging is a guarantor. Emerging is not a
17 guarantor of RTFC. Emerging is a pledgor to RTFC. They pledged
18 the stock of new ICC to support the debt that new ICC owes
19 RTFC. ICC, LLC has some guarantees. Mr. Prosser has some
20 guarantees. It's funny talking about Mr. Prosser's guarantee
21 how he can be a part of this purported objection to our claim
22 because he was the beneficiary of the deal. He went from being
23 a guarantor of 525 million dollars worth of debt to being a
24 judgment debtor for 100 million dollars. And, we don't
25 understand how he plays into this mix of trying to avoid a 400

1 million dollar concession or trying to undo it. It just --
2 it's so circuitous to us, it's just beyond belief. The
3 evidence -- and I don't disagree largely with Mr. Bartner's
4 recitation of the progress of the deal and how the deal all
5 came about and his promise to recapitulate the testimony of Mr.
6 Michaelis and perhaps Mr. Prosser about how it all happened,
7 but the Court saw it happen and I think you realize intuitively
8 and circumstantially what you saw occur in front of you is
9 susceptible, could form the basis of making findings based upon
10 the lack of progress in this case. And, the only person who
11 really knows the reason behind the closed doors is Mr. Prosser.
12 We don't know the reason because we were largely excluded,
13 sometimes at the hands of the debtors, sometimes voluntarily,
14 so that we wouldn't get involved in the claims that have
15 despariously been made against us in the sanctions' motion that
16 we in some how interfered. We were worried that we would get
17 blamed for interfering so we didn't interfere, we stepped back,
18 we let them do what they want to do, we let them do what they
19 wanted to do a second time, we let them do what they wanted to
20 do a third time, we let them do what they want to do a fourth
21 time, and now we've finally said enough's enough. The change
22 of control ought to occur. And, I think the Court can look at
23 what's been said to you over the course of the last few
24 hearings and the record that's been made before you in the last
25 couple hearings, not what happened back in the spring because

1 there was no evidence offered in the springtime or in the early
2 summer. The evidence has just occurred within the last couple
3 months. And, I think the Court really needs to look and weigh
4 closely the question of what the appropriate third party would
5 be. We continue to argue that it's the trustee.

6 The Court addressed a question to the U.S. Trustee's
7 counsel as to whether or not they had a position with regard to
8 change of control. We do. And, we have counsel here and I'd
9 like to defer to Mr. Bressie to comfort you about your position
10 I think as expressed to the PSC's counsel with regard to your
11 ability to make this appointment and not violate any change of
12 control position.

13 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bressie.

14 MR. BRESSIE: Thank you, Your Honor. For the record,
15 my name is Kent Bressie, and I'm regulatory counsel for the
16 RTFC. Your Honor, at the hearing last Friday, January 19th,
17 you noted that the change of control issue was, in fact, a red
18 herring, and the RTFC agrees. The RTFC's position is that the
19 Court has unfettered legal authority under Section 1104 of the
20 Bankruptcy Code to appoint a trustee.

21 In taking this position we do not mean to trivialize
22 the concerns or views of the Public Services Commission of the
23 Virgin Islands. The RTFC sympathizes with and respects the
24 PSC's desire to protect the interests of Virgin Islands
25 consumers and businesses. But, the RTFC believes as a legal

1 matter that the Court can not accept the PSC's assertion of a
2 prior consent power for a Court appointed trustee.

3 The Court must also reject the debtors' attempt to
4 cast a regulatory shadow over the trustee proposal in order to
5 favor its own preferred but flawed responsible officer
6 solution.

7 I have four brief points to make. As the Court
8 recognized last Friday there is no regulatory exception to the
9 Court's trustee appointment powers under Section 1104. And,
10 the U.S. Supreme Court was very clear about where there are
11 regulatory exceptions to the Bankruptcy Code they must be
12 stated explicitly and should not be inferred where they are not
13 so stated. There is no such caveat with respect to your power
14 to appoint a trustee. So, for this reason we believe that the
15 Court need not even reach the change of control issue because
16 there is no permissible grounds on which the PSC could exercise
17 its police or regulatory powers in this case to assert a prior
18 consent power.

19 But, second, even if the Court did reach the change
20 of control issue the RTFC believes that the Court should find
21 that the appointment of a trustee would not, in fact,
22 constitute a direct or indirect transfer of control under
23 Virgin Islands Law but that it instead constitutes a pro forma
24 event. As the Court recognized on Friday, the 1989 settlement
25 agreement between new ICC, Vitelco, the RTFC, and the PSC,

1 consented to the RTFC holding Vitelco stock as collateral. It
2 also defined a transfer of control as the transfer of a 51
3 percent ownership interest in new ICC. And, I would refer the
4 Court to Section 7(a)7 of that 1989 settlement agreement.

5 We think that the Court's focus on the 1989
6 settlement agreement is particularly appropriate in construing
7 what would constitute a transfer of control because, in fact,
8 the PSC has had notice since 1989 of the collateral that the
9 RTFC has held and of actions that the RTFC might take to
10 protect that collateral. That's not to say that the PSC's
11 authority to grant prior consent for any ultimate sale is in
12 any way constrained. The RTFC has consistently recognized and
13 certainly assured Judge Gomez in previous court hearings that
14 it would abide by those regulatory requirements, both in
15 Section 43(a)(a), the Virgin Islands Code, and in the
16 commitments in the 1989 settlement agreement.

17 The PSC has noted, including today, that somehow the
18 -- we have failed to address a scenario involving an indirect
19 transfer of control. Certainly, we do agree with Mr. Moorehead
20 that there is no previous case involving this particular
21 statute. But, we do believe that the 1989 agreement bears on
22 this. And, also with respect -- well, I'll get to that in a
23 second.

24 Your Honor, third, on the question of precedent,
25 whether it's PUC or FCC precedent, again, we recognize as Mr.

1 Moorehead points out, that we have cited other state or
2 territorial PUC cases that are not interpreting Virgin Islands
3 Law. But, the fact remains that we don't have any precedent in
4 the Virgin Islands to construe these statutes. And, the reason
5 that we had cited to other state statutes is that they do
6 contain some more language and we respectfully disagree with
7 Mr. Moorehead. I would direct the Court to Paragraphs 41
8 through 44 of our brief on the change of control issue. Each
9 one of those state statutes that we stated was roughly
10 analogous to the Virgin Islands' one actually addresses
11 indirect or ultimate changes in control, so we do think that
12 they are useful in construing the Virgin Islands Statute.

13 We also believe that the FCC's approach is relevant
14 here because not least of all ICC and its affiliates, including
15 Vitelco, hold dozens of FCC authorizations. And, there was
16 discussion earlier this afternoon of, you know, actually it was
17 Your Honor who pointed out that actually the filing of the
18 cases and moving into debtor-in-possession status, in fact, was
19 some sort of event that had someone other than the debtor --
20 the original individual pre-debtor status in control of the
21 debtors. And, that's certainly the FCC's view. The FCC treats
22 the filing of a bankruptcy case and movement into debtor-in-
23 possession status or the appointment of a trustee or a receiver
24 as a pro forma event that does not constitute a direct or
25 indirect transfer of control. And, certainly, we believe that

1 would be the case here and we've certainly not had any
2 objections from the FCC in this case.

3 I would also point out that with respect to the
4 existing PUC and FCC precedence that the idea of a responsible
5 officer is, in fact, a purple cow. No one's ever seen it
6 before with respect to a regulated utility. And, in fact,
7 that's not surprising given the number of very practical issues
8 that can arise, and my colleagues have already addressed some
9 of those so I won't go into that here. But, there is very
10 clear precedent with respect to the trustee scenario, both at
11 the FCC level and involving other Bankruptcy Court cases
12 involving public utilities. And, there is nothing of the sort
13 with respect to a responsible officer. And, we think that
14 bears upon both the powers of the Court and also the utility of
15 the appointment of a trustee under Section 1104.

16 I did want briefly to rebut just a couple of other
17 points that were raised. Counsel for the corporate debtors
18 mentioned that there was a threat of termination of the
19 franchise of Vitelco here. And, we believe that that is also a
20 red herring. Frankly, I'm not aware of anything in the briefs
21 or other submissions, certainly Mr. Moorehead did not raise it
22 today that such action was imminent as a factual matter or that
23 it was possible as a legal matter. And, we believe that the
24 Court should discount such scare tactics as it's really not
25 been suggested that that is a possibility.

1 THE COURT: Well, I don't have any evidence that
2 that's the case, so at this point, in fact, I don't think I can
3 accept that as a fact. And, all sorts of horribles could
4 possibly happen, all kinds of good things could possibly come
5 out of it. But, I don't have evidence necessarily of either,
6 so I'm going to base this on the facts as the evidence will
7 show me what the facts are.

8 MR. BRESSIE: Okay. Okay. Rather than take up the
9 Court's time, I certainly don't seek to regurgitate any of our
10 brief, which I think lays out very clearly the statutory
11 authority of the Court and useful precedence, both at the state
12 or territorial level, and at the federal level as to how a
13 trustee appointment would work in these cases. But, I do want
14 to leave the Court with the reassurance that there is certainly
15 no regulatory impediment to the appointment of a trustee in
16 terms of a state or territorial level prior consent
17 requirement. The statute simply doesn't allow for it and we
18 believe that you could rule on that basis alone without getting
19 into lengthy interpretations of Virgin Islands Law or the
20 various agreements.

21 THE COURT: All right. Anything?

22 MR. BRESSIE: Your Honor, if you have no further
23 questions?

24 THE COURT: No. Thank you.

25 MR. BRESSIE: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Galardi.

2 MR. GALARDI: Yes, Your Honor. Briefly. First, Your
3 Honor, I'd like to just cite one case to Your Honor I've
4 referred to as the Supreme Court case, it's Interstate Circuit
5 v. United States 306 U.S. Reporter 208, 59 Supreme Court 467.
6 It happens to be one of my favorite cases but it isn't --

7 THE COURT: I'm sorry, 306 U.S. what?

8 MR. GALARDI: U.S. 208.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MR. GALARDI: 59 Supreme Court 467, it's a 1939 case.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 MR. GALARDI: And, the relevance of that case, Your
13 Honor, again, is the debtors not coming forward with evidence
14 for whatever it's worth when Your Honor considers what the
15 transcripts actually say and what the evidence in.

16 Your Honor, first, with respect to further delays
17 Your Honor is absolutely right, there's going to be further
18 delays in this case and Your Honor is absolutely right. We
19 have chosen that we think that the further delays will have
20 more competence with a trustee as opposed to a responsible
21 officer.

22 Your Honor, I don't want to get into the regulatory
23 issue but I do want to point out one thing about the
24 responsible officer which to me I've never understood from both
25 Mr. Moorehead's position is, no one has specified -- and I

1 think this is why Judge McCullough eventually went away from
2 the responsible officer is, what is the position, what is the
3 title, to whom do they report, and what is the control that is
4 actually being seated to this responsible officer? We've
5 talked a lot about the financing but if this responsible
6 officer is someone who reports to the board we have exactly the
7 conflict issue we had before. If the responsible officer is
8 someone in lieu of the board then I don't see much of a
9 difference between the change of control issue between that and
10 a trustee. The debtors have simply said, "We want a
11 responsible officer to oversee the sale process and then he'll
12 report to the Court." We have our objections to that as a
13 statutory matter.

14 Your Honor raised a question about the claims
15 objection. First, Your Honor, it's a greater magic trick than
16 what I think has been understood. First, there is litigation
17 on the claims objection and, indeed, as I reported to Your
18 Honor and asked Mr. Prosser about, there are two filings that
19 are of significance for the trustee and the discharge of the
20 fiduciary duties. The claims objection was filed and there was
21 a complaint to subordinate the Greenlight claims. Both have
22 deadlines to respond of February 16th. So, let's not think
23 these are just in abeyance, this litigation is ongoing. With
24 respect to the claims objection it's an interesting magic
25 trick. It's alternative relief but here's how it works if I

1 understand it correctly and I may do it is, okay, if we don't
2 get the 402 we're going to undo the transaction as a fraudulent
3 conveyance. But, as Your Honor knows if you are the recipient
4 of a fraudulent conveyance then even though we might have a
5 claim and even though the RTFC might have a claim you don't get
6 a distribution on that claim. So, it's to zero us out and to
7 put us in a worst position than when we entered into the
8 settlement agreement in the first place because then we can't
9 even fight over our claim and how much our claim is if they're
10 right about the fraudulent conveyance. So, they're going to
11 not only undo the transfer but to take a fraudulent conveyance
12 view and say, "We can't be paid." So, it's an interesting
13 magic trick, we don't think it works, and, in fact, Your Honor,
14 when we first entered into these voluntary cases I raised the
15 exact concern that they would try to do this with Your Honor on
16 August 23rd, and Your Honor said, "I can't believe they're
17 going to try to do that." And, 549(b) I think says they got
18 something of consideration. And, Your Honor's recollection was
19 exactly correct. We agreed, and the RTFC agreed to stand down,
20 for a period of time in consideration for their having an
21 opportunity to finance us out at a much reduced number. We've
22 paid our consideration. They've had that time. So, we believe
23 there's consideration, Your Honor, and it's not something that
24 they can undo. But, again, if they stay in control the claims
25 litigation, the subordination litigation will go forward. Mr.

1 Prosser acknowledged that it's at least facially inconsistent
2 with the terms and conditions which require those to be in
3 Delaware. Now, they have their legal arguments but our view is
4 that both the claims objection and the subordination complaint
5 should be transferred to Delaware.

6 Your Honor, with respect to the no explanation of the
7 lending, the lending equity, the sale, and the Government, I
8 think the testimony Mr. Bartner is absolutely correct, the
9 question though is the inference to be drawn from that. And,
10 there's only one inference that I think can be drawn from that
11 is they have failed at each and every form or morphous or
12 metamorphous of the transaction and each time they have tried
13 to go forward to secure sufficient funds even at the 402,
14 they've not been able to do it. So, on that basis we think
15 that the -- as you once described it -- the shifting sands are
16 explainable by the fact that the business just doesn't have the
17 value that they say it does.

18 Your Honor, again, I think we see shifting sands,
19 again, throughout this case. Deloitte goes to Grant Thornton,
20 goes to BDO. The MORs, we get them one week, we ask questions,
21 they're incorrect, they're modified. The schedules and
22 statements and then Mr. Prossers, he makes statements, he
23 changes it. Your Honor, there hasn't been -- this is not a
24 complicated case, it's got a lot of money at stake but as Your
25 Honor pointed out the creditors who really have the stake are

1 on this side. The debtor is on that side. They've had to file
2 schedules and statements. They've had to file MORs. And,
3 they've had to sell the company or refinance it. And, each
4 time, every time they've done something and made a public
5 statement it's had to change a little bit. So, Your Honor, we
6 would strongly urge that you appoint a trustee.

7 Finally, Your Honor, just again as a precaution, I
8 know that Ms. Rich made her statement about this is not a
9 fraudulent conveyance. We do believe it's a fraudulent
10 conveyance. I think she put the rabbit in the hat by saying if
11 the terms and conditions are assumed it's not a fraudulent
12 conveyance. But, again, we contest the ability to assume those
13 terms and conditions. Not that you have to rule on that. And,
14 those are my final comments.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Ms. Rich.

16 MS. RICH: Nothing further, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Dodson.

18 MR. DODSON: Nothing, Your Honor. Thank you.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Moorehead.

20 MR. MOOREHEAD: Nothing further, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Ms. Kelley.

22 MS. KELLEY: Your Honor, I'll be very brief. First,
23 I'll just say that in the further argument I still haven't
24 heard anything that sounded to me like clear and convincing
25 evidence that meets the standard for the appointment of the

1 trustee, so I will not go through and address all of the
2 additional things that were raised. I still -- and the debtors
3 argue that that standard simply has not been met, it's a very
4 high standard, it's a substantial burden. And, the facts that
5 are in the record before the Court do not meet that standard.

6 I would just like to give the Court a couple of
7 citations as well, earlier Ms. Rich was talking about the
8 preferred shareholder lawsuit. There is some testimony from
9 Mr. Michaelis at the December 11th hearing on Page 20 regarding
10 that lawsuit and its effect on financing efforts. So, we did
11 locate that in the record.

12 In addition, Mr. Moorehead mentioned the Chevron case
13 and I happen to have the cite to that, which is 467 U.S. 837,
14 and it's a 1984 case. It's Chevron U.S.A, Inc. v. Natural
15 Resources. And, although we understand RTFC disagrees with the
16 PSC's interpretation, Chevron does talk about deferring to the
17 administrators agency's construction of its own regulation.
18 So, that may be helpful to the Court.

19 Your Honor, there was some discussion, the RTFC was
20 arguing that if the settlement agreement is unwound the
21 creditors here at Greenlight and the RTFC would be the
22 beneficiaries of that unwinding. And, I just wanted to point
23 out that that may or may not be the case. Again, that is not
24 the direction that we are going in. We intend to assume the
25 settlement agreements. And, that is where we've been moving

1 all along. This was an alternative argument that was raised in
2 the objection. But, at the time that the settlement agreements
3 were entered into the judgments were -- you know, the
4 underlying litigation was all on appeal, and so if there is
5 some sort of unwinding it may or may not be the case that these
6 parties are beneficiaries of that. If items are relitigated it
7 could come out in any number of ways. We had what we believe
8 are meritorious appeals pending at the time that this was
9 entered into. So, that is just one thing to keep in mind.
10 Again, this isn't a situation where the debtors are backing
11 away from it, we intend to move forward to assume the
12 settlement agreement. But, you know, it may end up if we go
13 the other route much different than it is today.

14 With respect to the comment that they would not get a
15 distribution, I think this is, again, not some kind of trick
16 that we are doing. I think it's clear that while it is in
17 dispute or if it is avoidable there would be no distribution
18 but if at the end of the day there is some resolution to that
19 and there is a claim, I mean that judgment would hold. So, I
20 don't -- I'm not sure I followed that argument. But, certainly
21 there is no attempt to be tricky here. That's just an
22 alternative argument that we think is valid given that the
23 debtors have given up substantial consideration in the
24 settlement agreement.

25 I just wanted to comment on a couple of other things

1 very quickly. The RTFC was making a distinction between being
2 a pledgor and a guarantor. And, although Emerging did pledge
3 new ICC stock for the benefit -- did pledge stock for the
4 benefit of new ICC, this has the same practical effect as a
5 guarantee. The point I was trying to make previously was that
6 there was consideration involved in the original transaction.
7 And so, whether they were a pledgor or a guarantor, I don't
8 think that makes a difference for the purpose for which I was
9 saying that. I understand they were a pledgor and I misspoke.
10 But, I think my original point still holds.

11 And, I think that's really all, Your Honor. Again, I
12 just don't think that the evidence presented supports the
13 appointment of the trustee. On the other hand, we think that
14 the debtors and all the other parties would benefit from the
15 appointment of a responsible officer and we think the Court
16 does have authority and urge the Court to make that
17 appointment.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MS. KELLEY: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Lichenstein.

21 MR. LICHENSTEIN: Nothing further, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: My goodness.

23 MR. LICHENSTEIN: I'd like to go watch the snow at
24 the airport, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Okay. All right, all of you are content

1 that you do not want to any post-hearing briefing, is that
2 correct?

3 MR. BARTNER: That would be fine, Your Honor.

4 MR. GREENDYKE: Fine with the RTFC, Judge.

5 MR. MOOREHEAD: Your Honor, the Public Service
6 Commission would like to submit something if it's okay?

7 THE COURT: Sure. How much time do you need? Mr.
8 Moorehead, I'm sorry, how much time do you need?

9 MR. MOOREHEAD: Four or five business days would be
10 fine, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Gebhardt.

12 MR. GEBHARDT: This is fine, we will not submit, Your
13 Honor. Thank you.

14 THE COURT: How about any post-trial submissions that
15 anyone wants? Today is the 24th. I'll expect to get them by
16 Tuesday, January 30th. That should give me time to hopefully
17 read them before I get to the Virgin Islands on the 6th, so
18 that hopefully I can give you a ruling on the 6th?

19 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you very much, Your Honor.

20 MR. GERBER: Your Honor, if the PSC is going to file
21 something, you know, we might want to reserve the right to file
22 something promptly thereafter. I worry about further delay. I
23 think the parties other than the PSC have all agreed that there
24 shouldn't be any further delay through post-trial briefing, and
25 I just -- we're all anxious to get the ruling and you've got

1 statutory impositions, I believe, in terms of you issuing the
2 ruling. So, we're in a position where the PSC files something
3 we'd like a day or two to respond.

4 THE COURT: Okay. By when?

5 MR. GERBER: Well, Your Honor, we'd prefer that there
6 just not be any post-petition -- post --

7 THE COURT: Well, I'm not -- I just don't deny
8 someone an opportunity to submit something after --

9 MR. GERBER: We'll do it within 48 hours, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. Any response then is due by
11 February 1st.

12 MR. GERBER: Your Honor, what we might do is just
13 advise the Court whether or not we're going to respond after we
14 look at, and we might just tell the Court we're not going to
15 respond.

16 THE COURT: Okay, that's fine. I mean, either way by
17 February 1st. I'm still going to try to get this so that I
18 will be in a position to give you some rulings on the 6th. I
19 don't know. I'm going to do my best. Even if I can't get
20 through all of the issues I'm going to try to get through at
21 least some of the issues by the 6th. I'm going to try to get
22 through them all if I can. Have all of the transcripts been
23 filed? Is this the only hearing date for which the transcript
24 isn't filed yet?

25 MR. GALARDI: Yes.

1 THE COURT: Is somebody going to order this
2 transcript?

3 MR. GALARDI: I'm sure we will, Your Honor.

4 MR. GERBER: Your Honor, may I make two points about
5 the briefing schedule? First is, is it my understanding that
6 the briefing is only on the trustee change of control issues?
7 So, all other issues can be addressed or not?

8 THE COURT: Mr. Moorehead, I assume that your issue
9 is with respect to the change of control?

10 MR. MOOREHEAD: That's the only issue that concerns
11 us at the moment, Your Honor, yes.

12 THE COURT: Okay, so, yes, that will be briefing only
13 on the change of control issue.

14 MR. MOOREHEAD: Yes.

15 MR. GALARDI: Okay. And then, two practical issues,
16 I know you know about our conversion motion and I know that's
17 all there. The other practical issue is there is no motion
18 pending for exclusivity to go beyond January 28th. We think
19 that the change of control issue being separate from that,
20 there is a plan and there is a solicitation period that would
21 take you out to March 18th. We see no other motion. So,
22 again, we do have that cross motion, we would like to have the
23 ruling on exclusivity --

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 MR. GALARDI: -- if that can be separated, done

1 sooner.

2 THE COURT: Well, actually I think I can give you
3 that ruling now.

4 MR. GALARDI: Okay.

5 THE COURT: With respect to the exclusivity. At
6 least with respect to the Rule 1014 part of that motion. And
7 then, I think what I will do is continue the exclusivity until
8 I can make the rulings on the rest, which hopefully will be
9 February 6th. I have tried to get through the standards on
10 1014 and frankly I think there is a lot of confusion in the
11 very few cases that have come up under 1014 as to exactly what
12 it covers under a circumstance like the Court's facing in this
13 case. And, you know, the cases tend to suggest that Rule 1014
14 stops all substantive actions in the case but doesn't really
15 deal with deadlines because the case law seems to suggest that
16 where another deadline is employed in a specific section, that
17 that specific section governs. But, the problem in a case like
18 this is, how you can say that exclusivity is terminated before
19 you even get to a 341 meeting, which is essentially what would
20 have happened in these cases, just doesn't make any logical
21 sense. I can't see how Congress could have envisioned that
22 that would be the case in imposing Rule 1014 standards. Now,
23 probably Congress didn't envision that it would take five
24 months or however long it took to get through the 1014 issues,
25 and in most circumstances it wouldn't have but for the fact

1 that I thought you folks might actually come to some negotiated
2 agreement and actually get the creditors paid and the debtors
3 on with its business. And so, it would not have in this case
4 either, but nonetheless that's sort of water over the dam and
5 I'm faced with the circumstance as it exists as of the time the
6 motion was filed. And as of that time the 341 meeting was not
7 scheduled.

8 I do not think in good faith this Court could
9 terminate exclusivity before the debtor in the voluntary case
10 has a good faith opportunity to present its plan to the Court
11 in an exclusive period. So, although I don't know that I'd
12 want to say as a matter of precedent for all cases that I might
13 not want to look at this issue in a different context a
14 different way, I don't think in this case that 1014 could be
15 employed to bar the debtors' exclusivity period in the fashion
16 that Greenlight argued that it should bar the exclusive period.
17 I don't think that it terminates those deadlines automatically.
18 So, I don't think the debtors' exclusive period did terminate
19 on November, whatever the date was, 28th or 29th, by operation
20 of 1014.

21 Having said that, I think that the debtors are
22 therefore still within their exclusive period because the Court
23 has been extending it, admittedly in little bits and drabs,
24 dips and drabs, as we get through this process, until I can see
25 what the overall lay of the land is going to look like. And, I

1 really think until I get through the responsible officer/
2 trustee motion that the debtors' exclusive period should be
3 continued until then. So, I am going to continue the debtors'
4 exclusivity period until those motions are decided. And, I
5 agree with whoever argued that once the trustee motion is
6 decided, if it's a favorable decision, then the exclusivity
7 motion is essentially moot in any event, because at that point
8 although the debtors could file a plan the trustee can always
9 file a plan, too. So, I think that at that point in time the
10 trustee will probably be the entity that everybody would be
11 looking for to file a plan. If, however, the responsible
12 officer motion is the motion that is accepted by the Court then
13 I still need to look at the exclusivity motion and I would do
14 so in light of all of the other evidence in the case to see
15 whether even though a responsible officer is in place it's
16 still appropriate to carry through the exclusivity period.

17 So, the only ruling I'm prepared to give you today
18 is, I think under the circumstances of this case, based on
19 Number One the length of time that the venue motion was pending
20 for the reasons that the venue motion was pending for the
21 length of time that it was, that 1014 would not operate to
22 terminate the debtors' exclusivity period, that the debtors
23 therefore are still within that exclusivity period, that I will
24 continue that exclusivity period until I can address the
25 motions that are pending today.

1 I agree you don't have a motion that goes beyond
2 whatever the date you stated, Mr. Galardi, it doesn't get all
3 the way up to February 6. But, I don't think anybody will be
4 prejudiced by that brief extension up to February 6. Or,
5 whatever date I can get an order out. If I can do it sooner I
6 will, but based on the fact that briefs are going to come in by
7 the 1st I have grave doubts that I'm going to get to it. You
8 know, just to decisions before February 6th, I have a feeling
9 I'm going to be using my time on the plane on the way down, and
10 so forth, reading documents to try to get this done by February
11 6th, as it is. So, I'm going to continue the debtors'
12 exclusivity until I get those motions decided, I will give it
13 every effort to try to do it on or before February 6th.

14 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, may I ask that you enter an
15 order to the effect that you've just done on the exclusivity?

16 THE COURT: To do what?

17 MR. GALARDI: Well, again, Your Honor, with all due
18 respect I think we disagree with your ruling and I think we can
19 take an appeal of that ruling. So, I would ask you to put an
20 order to the effect, whatever it was that you just said on -- I
21 understand --

22 THE COURT: That 1014 does not terminate --

23 MR. GALARDI: Well, I don't think our argument was
24 that it -- I think the argument is, it extends the period so it
25 doesn't start to run until after the 1014 stay was evaporated,

1 so to speak. Which I think the debtors have argued is as of
2 the day that Your Honor entered the venue order and dissolved
3 the 1014 stay, that would be the day one to 120. If I'm not
4 mistaken.

5 THE COURT: Oh, no. I don't agree with that. I
6 don't agree, I'm sorry.

7 MR. GALARDI: So, I'm not sure I understand. I
8 understand that we have exclusivity to February 6th.

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 MR. GALARDI: That I got. How we get there, I don't
11 know. And, I --

12 THE COURT: How we get there is because the the
13 debtors filed the motion to extend the exclusivity period
14 within their deadline. Exclusivity had not terminated from the
15 day the order for relief in the case was entered, until the day
16 the debtors filed the motion to extend the exclusivity period.
17 In my view 1014 is an irrelevant.

18 MR. GALARDI: And, that's fine, Your Honor. And,
19 they did that within the day even that we counted, for example,
20 they filed it before the November the 18th.

21 THE COURT: Correct.

22 MR. GALARDI: The only issue there is they only asked
23 for a 60-day extension.

24 THE COURT: Correct.

25 MR. GALARDI: Which would have gone to January 26th.

1 There is no motion to go to February 6th.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. GALARDI: They filed a plan within that period of
4 time which would automatically have kept the exclusivity and
5 given them --

6 THE COURT: And got --

7 MR. GALARDI: -- okay, and that's fine. If it's
8 because of the plan I understand that because that starts the
9 solicitation 60 days.

10 THE COURT: Correct.

11 MR. GALARDI: That's all I -- then I understand what
12 I think.

13 THE COURT: Okay. All I was attempting to say is I
14 don't think 1014 fits into this mix.

15 MR. GALARDI: We understand that.

16 THE COURT: Okay. And, you were -- you've been
17 asking me several times to give you a ruling on 1014 and I
18 haven't done that, and having looked at I just don't think
19 under the circumstances of this case that 1014 has terminated
20 or started the running of the exclusivity period. I think the
21 exclusivity period started running the day the order for relief
22 was entered, which is the day that the voluntaries were filed.

23 MR. GALARDI: Okay. And, that's -- and my
24 understanding is that's it, they've been granted essentially
25 the extension to whatever it was and by filing the plan they

1 have essentially self extended that period for the
2 solicitation.

3 THE COURT: That's right. And, I'm going to look at
4 this issue as to whether or not that period should continue to
5 be extended after I get a ruling on these cases for even the
6 solicitation because everyone has acknowledged that this plan
7 is not confirmable.

8 MR. GALARDI: And, that's fine. Now, I understand
9 Your Honor. Thank you.

10 THE COURT: Okay. So, I think, you know, the
11 exclusivity is for an unconfirmable plan and there's no point
12 to sending it out for solicitation. So, on that basis it may
13 be appropriate to break exclusivity. I'm going to look at that
14 issue. I don't have a motion to that effect. I'm doing it on
15 my own motion, I believe the Court has the authority to do
16 that.

17 MR. GALARDI: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Lichenstein.

19 MR. LICHENSTEIN: The second motion, Your Honor, was
20 the conversion motion. Unless the Court's prepared to deny it
21 today, which we'd welcome, I think it needs to be extended to
22 -- or did you already?

23 THE COURT: I am extending the conversion motion
24 because I need to review the transcripts and all of the
25 evidence. That was the reason I continued the hearings and

1 expedited the hearings so that they were not heard in the
2 Virgin Islands on the 6th. So, and I believe Mr. Galardi
3 agreed that I could have that period of time to get through
4 this evidence. Is that correct?

5 MR. GALARDI: And, Your Honor, given the amount of
6 evidence I think the extra 10 days or whatever it is is fine.

7 THE COURT: All right. So, I will do my best to get
8 through that by February 6th. And, that will be the first of
9 the motions that I will take under advisement. Okay. So now,
10 what sort of an order do you want on the exclusivity?

11 MR. GALARDI: Your Honor, I think the record and what
12 you said is fine for this. I think we're of a like mind. I'll
13 live with this order for now.

14 THE COURT: All right. So, the debtors exclusivity
15 period is extended. I will take a look at the conversion
16 motion. I'm looking for a brief from the PSC by January 30th,
17 and from anybody who wants to respond to it by February 1st.
18 Okay. Is there anything else that I need to address today?
19 Okay. Safe travels home. Try to get out before the really big
20 snowstorm hits.

21 MR. MOOREHEAD: Thank you for accommodating us, Your
22 Honor.

23 MR. GALARDI: Thank you.

24 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Thank you.

1 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Would it be okay if we left

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9 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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11 We, Betsy Wolfe and Marlene Fattore, certify that the
12 foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic
13 sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled
14 matter, and to the best of our abilities.

15

16 /s/ Betsy Wolfe

Date: January 28, 2007

17 BETSY WOLFE

18

19 /s/ Marlene A. Fattore

20 MARLENE A. FATTORE

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